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LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.) THE EMPEROR FREDERICK'S HEALTH.

A New Development.

BERLIN, April 13. — The semi-official North German Gazette to-day makes the following announcement:—"In consequence of a contraction which has taken place in the air passage, a change of the canula in the Emperor's throat became necessary. A new canula was accordingly inserted yesterday by Professor von Bergmann. The Emperor's general condition was not thereby affected, but his Majesty spent the remainder of the day in bed."

Noon.—The contraction which has led to the insertion of a fresh canula in the Emperor's throat is believed to indicate that the local complaint has attacked the trachea.

2 P.M.—The Emperor Frederick, who passed a good night, rose at half past seven this morning, and subsequently received verbal reports from Privy Councillor von Winterfeldt and Herr von Puttkamer, Minister of the Interior. At noon the Emperor and Empress drove into Berlin in a closed carriage, the Princess Victoria following in an open one. Their Majesties visited the palace, and on their return drove through the Lustgarten, past the Old Castle, and thence along the Avenue Unter den Linden to Charlottenburg. The Emperor was somewhat paler than usual, but otherwise looked well. The adjustment of the canula was effected without particular inconvenience to his Majesty, and without a surgical operation.

GENERAL BOULANGER'S CANDIDATURE.

More Disorderly Meetings.

PARIS, April 14.—Electoral meetings were held yesterday at Cateau and Hazebrouck, the proceedings at both being of a stormy character. The Cateau meeting was remarkable for the fact that General Boulanger's candidature was rejected. At Hazebrouck no speaker could obtain a hearing, owing to the disorder. M. Paul Déroulède has written a letter inviting all the school teachers in the Nord to support General Boulanger's candidature. M. Déroulède declares that the name of Boulanger means neither a dictatorship nor war, but an independent and self-respecting peace. France, he adds, cannot exist under the absurd régime of the pseudo-monarchical constitution of 1875. After stating that to say that Germany would declare war if General Boulanger were elected, is an unjust impression, M. Déroulède declares that he himself is favourable to whatever the will of France should indicate. The Gazette states that General Boulanger will visit the Nord after the election.

OPPOSITION TO THE WHEEL TAX.

A deputation waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Thursday to protest against the proposed tax on vans and carts. Mr. R. K. Causton, M.P., in introducing the deputation, said its object was not to ask for the reduction of the proposed tax, but its total withdrawal, on the ground that it was a tax on locomotion, upon plant and tools, and upon labour and industry generally. In reply to several questions, Mr. Goschen said he was not prepared to abolish the tax; but he thought he could remove more than one-half of their grievances. He proposed to grant this, that no person should be called upon to pay the license duty on vans or carts beyond the number of horses kept. There were 450,000 horses taxable under these proposals in the country; therefore the amount raised would only be £450,000. Considerable dissent was expressed, and Mr. J. R. Kelly, M.P., declared that to the poor man with one horse the Chancellor had made no concession. He would oppose it most strenuously. Mr. Goschen said it was always a disagreeable thing to tax anybody, and he was certainly much disappointed at the way in which his proposals—his modified proposals—had been accepted. He believed that what he had suggested would have given great relief. On a 30cwt. this could not be onerous. He had carefully considered their views, and he was sorry to say he could not see his way to withdraw the tax.

EMIN PACHA AND STANLEY.

The Reform (Roman) publishes a letter from Captain Campio, announcing that Emin Pacha and Captain Casati are in safety. The news reached Captain Campio in two letters from Captain Casati, dated September 1st and 24th. It appears that Captain Casati was a prisoner in the hands of the King of Triaxore, not having been able to prevent the King from organizing an expedition against him, and, after preparing to defend himself, having been overcome. Subsequently, however, he succeeded in persuading the King to make friends with Emin Pacha, and was charged with a mission to treat with the latter for an alliance. The letter adds that up to September 24th Mr. Stanley had not arrived at Wadai.

THE METROPOLITAN CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS.

The Metropolitan Conservative members have decided to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer to receive a deputation on the subject of the wheel tax. At a private meeting held in one of the committee rooms of the House of Commons on Thursday, it was agreed to support the second reading of the Local Government Bill. A discussion took place in reference to the wheel tax, in which Mr. Lafone, Mr. Maple, Sir A. Rollet, Mr. Aird, Mr. Baumann, and others took part, and the prevailing opinion appeared to be that the impost would require considerable modification. A special meeting of the committee will be held to deal further with the subject next Monday.

Owing to the success achieved by "Uncle Tom's Cabin" at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, Mr. Burton Green, the lessee, has decided to continue the run of the piece up to Whitstide.

The announcement that the "Golden Ladder" would be withdrawn from the programme of the Globe Theatre on Saturday, resulted in such an increased demand for seats that Mr. Wilson has decided to play the piece a little longer. The new play, "Ben-my-Chree," is in active rehearsal, and will be produced on the 23rd inst.

THE GERMAN MARRIAGE PROJECT.

Reported Compromise.

Prince Bismarck again drove out to Charlottenburg on Thursday afternoon, and failed not, as it is said, to present his congratulations to the Princess Victoria on the occasion of her birthday. Moreover, the Berlin correspondent of the Times observes, if there is any truth in a rumour which has reached him from a source that he says has hitherto proved trustworthy, there is considerable chance, after all, of the Chancellor having to congratulate the Princess at no very distant date on a much more momentous event than a mere birthday. The aspect of the Chancellor crisis has varied greatly from day to day since it began, more than a week ago; and now gives some promise of result in an "All's well that ends well" which will enable Germany to retain the services of her Chancellor, and yet permit the Empress to achieve her purpose. Efforts to attain this end are certainly in progress, under the auspices of high mediators and advocates, and it is needless to say that the basis of these efforts is an endeavour to convince Prince Bismarck—perhaps even through the medium of assurances from Russia—that his fears with regard to the political consequences of the proposed marriage are either exaggerated or unfounded. Such is the turn once more taken by this extraordinary incident, and there is said meanwhile to be a fair prospect of its leading to a settlement satisfactory to both sides. But in any case there is a growing probability that the Chancellor's services will be preserved to the nation, and it does not require to be said that any advice which Queen Victoria may be called upon to give when at Berlin will certainly tend to free her Majesty from the suspicion—which is so unjustly and ungenerously expressed by some ill-informed and rashly-judging writers—of undue interference with the family affairs of her Imperial daughter.

History of the Incident.

The events leading up to the threatened resignation of Prince Bismarck are thus described:—When the Emperor William died, Prince Alexander wrote to ask whether he should attend the funeral as a Prussian major-general. It was answered that his coming was not opportune, and that it was better to postpone his visit to Berlin till Easter. A few days before the specified time the Emperor told Prince Bismarck that he expected Prince Alexander, and asked him whether he had any objections to his conferring upon him the Order Pour le Mérite, and giving him the command of a brigade in Darmstadt. Prince Bismarck instantly raised objections, whereupon the Emperor unmistakably indicated that in consequence of this answer he would let the matter rest; but in spite of this answer the Chancellor sent a memorandum enumerating in very detailed manner all the political consequences which might possibly arise from such a marriage. By the way, it may be stated that Prince Bismarck, who is ordinarily free enough from prejudices, is on one point certainly not so. He cannot get rid of the suspicion that the English policy has always been to try and influence German affairs by existing family ties. This suspicion played in the present question a prominent part. The Queen, four years ago, when the marriage project was first brought forward, was persuaded to write in favour of the scheme to the Emperor William. This letter at the time caused much commotion, and since then Prince Bismarck has had the idea that the marriage was an English device. The Emperor did not answer the memorandum; perhaps he thought it would be superfluous to do so after having already once expressed his intention of dropping the matter in consequence of Prince Bismarck's opposition. Moreover, some people were busy spreading about some gossiping reports relating to a thoughtless but not ill-meant remark of the Empress, so that the tension was artificially increased. Prince Bismarck, who feared that this project might after all be carried out, pressed the matter, and the semi-official press took it up, but distinctly not in the way intended by the prince. It was made the subject of a quasi trial of popularity between the Chancellor and the Emperor, which could not fail to be injurious to the authority of the latter.

AN IMAGINARY FORTUNE.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court on Thursday, Alfred Fountain, 49, described as a carpenter and joiner, of Golden-square, Hampstead, was charged on remand, before Mr. Barstow, with having obtained by fraudulent pretences various sums of money, amounting to about £50, from Albert Hudson, landlord of the Ragby Hotel, Great James-street, Bedford-row, in January last.—Mr. Duke prosecuted, and said prisoner was accused of obtaining the money by making false representations to the prosecutor that he was entitled to receive a large sum of money under a will, which was being improperly detained by two persons. Fountain obtained the money from the prosecutor in the shape of loans. On the 16th of January the prisoner called at the Ragby Hotel, and told the prosecutor he was in trouble and wished for assistance. The money he was entitled to was under the will of a Mrs. Fountain. Fountain also said he was a pensioner of the Royal Engineers, and owned two houses at Willesden Green. The "deeds," which showed that he was entitled to receive about £7,000, could be obtained if the matter were placed in the hands of a solicitor. Prosecutor allowed his own solicitors to take the matter up, and in the meantime he lent the prisoner different sums of money amounting to £50. His solicitors, after the lapse of a week or two, told him the prisoner's story could not be true, and the matter was placed in the hands of the police. Fountain, it had since been found that the prisoner had obtained some money by means of a false cheque from a Mr. Turner. Fountain had told Mr. Hudson that under the will of the "Duke of Bedford," £21,000 was to have been divided between three brothers. The prisoner said he was one of them, and at one of the later interviews with the prosecutor, he said the money under the will was ready for him at a branch of the Capital and Counties Bank, but there were certain formalities to go through, which necessitated delay. The prisoner, when he obtained the loans and letters which seemed to show that his story was true, Fountain was quite a stranger to the prosecutor when he first called to see him. There was not a shadow of foundation for any of the prisoner's statements, and he was believed to have been concerned in other frauds of a similar character.—The prosecutor having given evidence bearing out Mr. Duke's statement, the prisoner was again remanded for a week.

THE SWEATING SYSTEM.

Parliamentary Inquiry.

The inquiry into the sweating system was resumed on Friday morning by the select committee of the House of Lords appointed to inquire into it. The Earl of Dunraven presided.—Mr. Arnold White was called, and gave evidence. He said: I am interested in social problems, and the author of a book entitled "The Problems of a Great City." My investigations have been conducted in the East-end of London, and I have come in contact with the sweating system. I think it is impossible to give a scientific definition of the term sweating, but it involves three ideas which are sufficiently distinct. The broadest definition is one which describes it as a system that grinds the face of the poor; the second idea is that the master contributes neither capital, skill, nor speculation, and yet gets a profit; and the third is the middleman. The sweating system is a system carried on under one or other of these conditions. It extends principally and most violently in the boot trade, less so in the tailoring trade, especially in the best departments, and also in the making of shirts by piece, and in the cabinet trade and upholstery. It is important to observe that the word "sweater" is employed in the boot trade to mean the man who is sweated, but in the tailoring trade it means the man who causes others to sweat. The system employed in the slop boot trade, for the small master to employ two or three, six, seven, or eight men, called finishers. These small masters obtain labour on the so-called mansuvers, who are unable to influence the price of leather or the amount of rent, and who have no other factor which can be reduced except the wages of the men.

The Effect on Masters and Men.

The effect of this system, according to the men, is that they receive an unfair proportion of the sums paid by the manufacturers. The master takes for his share 2s., and the balance is divided between three classes of workmen being 8d. each. If the master can increase the number of finishers he increases his own profit. The grievance of the men against masters is that the latter absorb far too great a proportion of the profits of the payments. If a master contracts for twenty-five dozen of boots for £7 10s., and completes in a week, he takes £2 15s., and what he finds rent, 3s. 6d.; gas, 2s. 6d.; and what is called grindery, or 1s. 6d., and what he calls labour he derives it without any capital or labour on his part. The system has been introduced by the introduction of rivetting and the machine sewing system in the boot trade, and by the introduction of foreign paupers, which began in 1880. These foreign paupers will work for periods of time so prolonged as to be a surprise to be believed by any one who has not seen them. In return their remuneration is not above that of an Indian coolie with five annas a day. In four weeks a man who has had no previous experience or training can, if he works eighteen or twenty hours a day, and never leaves his stool, earn sufficient to keep body and soul together, and if he has left his wife behind him in Poland or Russia, he hopes to become a knifer, as a higher grade in the work is called, and to bring them over to this country. By the introduction of the American kit and of American machinery, the labour becomes subdivided, and, in fact, the sweating system, the boot trade is the result of two causes—first, the improvement of machinery; and, secondly, the immense influx of pauper foreigners from abroad. The sweating system, and the piece work system to piece work, and the piece work system has been further developed by the introduction of machinery. The use of machinery has greatly increased the ranks of manufacturers, and consequently competition had become intense; there is no pride taken in the quality of the work, and consequently the colonial markets are flooded with work of the most worthless description. (The witness produced a pair of boots made under the sweating system, the sole of which were stuffed with paper. He also produced a piece of hard bread which had formed part of a workman's dinner, and which had formed part of a workman's dinner, and which had formed part of a workman's dinner, and which had formed part of a workman's dinner.) The system has been further exaggerated by the substitution of boys for men. Any attempt on the part of workmen to restrict the working hours, or to increase the proportion of the men's earnings, or to induce the industry of foreign paupers began in 1880 wages have fallen, and work which then produced sixpence produces only fourpence now. Where there are no foreign paupers there is no sweating system.—The Chairman: Do you mean that no English people are subject to it? That is so; the habits of the English workman are opposed to it, and he could not live on the wages. The home life of the foreigner under the system is completely destroyed.—In reply to Lord Fribing, he said they were remarkably intelligent and temperate, and he produced a German newspaper published in Hebrew characters in Commercial-road, the contents of which were of a very revolutionary character.—The Chairman: Have you any suggestion to make? I would suggest a restriction of foreign paupers, especially of elderly men, ignorant of their trade, speaking no language but their own, and bringing no money with them; the extension of the Factory Act to adult males, and the restriction of workrooms.—In reply to several noble lords, he mentioned that the pauper immigrants of whom he was speaking came from Mirsk, Odessa, and the borders of Russian Poland. They were old men at 40, made no progress in the world, and died young.

Nineteen Hours Work a Day.

Samuel Wildman, a Hungarian, who has been ten years in this country, working under the sweating system as a bootmaker, described his work. He said he came to this country because he could not make a living in his own. For the first month he worked for nothing while he was learning the trade, his hours being from five in the morning till midnight. He now worked from six in the morning till midnight, and made 15s. a week, being allowed a cup of

coffee and a cup of tea daily, but no bread. He required to work so hard to get the work done that he could not drink his coffee or tea until it was cool, as he could not spare the time to drink it warm. He was at the workroom six days a week, but had not always six days' work. The work was four and a half yards square, and two or three yards high. It had two windows, two gaslights, and one heating light, and four workmen besides the master were employed in it. During December and January they had no work at all. During the busiest time the wages reached from 2s. to 2s. 6s. a week, and the lowest wages in the slack time were 12s. or 13s. a week. Before he came to this country he earned 1000l. or 1200l. a year, and three sacks of wheat.—Mayor Fellich, a Russian, from Odessa, who arrived here three weeks ago with 3s. in his pocket, was examined, and stated that, being a Jew, he was turned out of one town after another, and came to this country to get a living. He is now being taught boot finishing, and expects to be able to earn his living in a couple of weeks. Meanwhile his countrymen gave him his breakfast and dinner. He works from six in the morning till midnight.—The committee then rose.

ELOPING WITH A STEP-DAUGHTER—RETRIBUTION.

At the Manchester Police Court on Friday, George Rideal, aged 33, clerk, and Ann Griffiths, 16, servant, were charged with attempting to commit suicide. Rideal had written a letter to his mother, but soon transferred his affections to the girl. The wife discovered the intrigue, but pardoned it on receiving a promise of amendment. Further trouble ensued, however, and the erring pair went off together. Afterwards, while in great distress and despairing of success, they took laudanum; but the drug failed to act, and they decided to drown themselves. Accordingly, about midnight on March 7th, they jumped into the Rochdale Canal. Once more, however, they were saved from death; for Rideal, finding he could not reach the bottom, stood upright in the water, and hearing the girl screaming, went to her assistance. Other aid was soon forthcoming, and both were got out of the canal. Rideal was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and the girl was liberated on her own recognisance.

A CABMAN ASSAULTED AND ROBBERED.

William Nushan, aged 39 years, a cabdriver, residing at 21, Charlotte-street, Caledonian-road, was admitted into the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road, on Friday, suffering from severe injuries. It appears from the statement of Nushan that early on Friday morning he drove a fare to the top of Catherine-street, Covent Garden, and that his fare paid him 7s. 6d. and went away. Some men who were standing by then struck him several times, knocking him down, and took from him all the money he possessed, about 11s., after which they decamped. On Nushan being removed to the hospital and examined, Dr. G. H. Biddlecombe, house surgeon, found the man to be suffering from a fracture of the right leg.

ALLEGED HORRIBLE CRUELTY TO A CHILD.

At the Greenwich Police Court on Friday, Joan Barratt, of 106, Court Hill-road, Lewisham, was summoned for assaulting Florence Lydia Barratt, aged 9 years, her stepdaughter. She was also summoned in conjunction with her husband, Sydney Barratt, for unlawfully and wilfully neglecting to provide adequate food, clothing, medical aid, and lodging for the child, thereby having adequate means and ability, whereby the health of the child was likely to be seriously injured. The summonses were taken at the instance of Mr. J. W. Mott, relieving officer of Lewisham. Mr. Waters appeared for the defence, and Mr. Pook appeared for the Women and Children. Mr. Barratt was returned at once, against the female defendant, for unlawfully wounding the child by burning her with a red-hot poker.—The child was called as a witness, and she stated that on the morning of the 5th inst. she got up at six o'clock and lit the fire. She did nothing wrong but her stepmother slapped her face, gave her a piece of hard bread, and turned her out into the street. It was a cold morning, and the witness was thinly clad. Three or four weeks previously her stepmother told her to put out her tongue, and when she did so struck her a blow under the chin, making her bite her tongue. This was repeated on three occasions. At other times her stepmother struck her on the legs with a red-hot poker, and there were marks on her flesh. After being burned on the legs she was near as in bed for a week, but no doctor was called in.—Medical evidence was given to the effect that there were ten or eleven marks upon the child's legs, which were also a mark upon the child's tongue.—The inquiry was adjourned, the female defendant being admitted to bail.

BETTING IN THE STREETS.

At the Marylebone Police Court on Friday, William Fry, 25, of Albert-street, Camden Town, and George Rowley, 21, of Fortess-road, Kentish Town, were charged with obstructing the highway by betting.—Detective-sergeants Miller and Taylor, of the Y Division, saw the prisoners standing outside a public-house in the Prince of Wales's-road with other men betting. They had some difficulty in securing the men's arrest, but at length succeeded by riding in a tramcar until they came opposite to where the men stood, and then pouncing upon a bet which had just been made. Between 200 and 300 papers relating to betting transactions were found on Rowley; also a betting-book and about £20 in money. Between £17 and £18 was found on Fry. The latter, Sergeant Miller said, was fined £5 at that court last October.—Mr. Cooke fined Fry £5 and Rowley £3.

KILLED WHILST AT WORK.

An inquest was held at Jarro on Thursday on the body of Mark Harvey, who died in hospital from the effects of injuries received on the 12th of January. A plumber named Shaw stated that he was working twenty-four feet above the deceased and was in the act of lifting an iron grip weighing 14lb., when it slipped out of his hand and fell upon the head of the deceased. It was a cold morning, and his hand was numb. At the deceased's skull was badly fractured. At the hospital the deceased was apparently recovering, when inflammation set in and he died.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and acquitted the plumber of blame.

ALLEGED MURDER BY A MOTHER.

Mary Holliday, a young unmarried woman, was charged at Driffield with the wilful murder of her daughter, aged 9 years, in February last. The body of the deceased was recently found in the canal near Driffield, and was buried without having been identified. From a statement made by the prisoner's mother, it appears that the child had been living with her until six weeks ago, when the prisoner took her away, as she alleged, to Leeds, where some friends had promised to bring her up. The story was a fictitious one, and the grandmother identified the clothing produced as that which the child had worn on the day she was taken away by the prisoner. When found the child was nicely dressed and had warm gloves on and some writing materials in her pockets. The body was found and buried in an adjoining parish, about three miles distant from where the grandparent lives, without her suspicion being aroused.—Prisoner was now remanded.

A PERSISTENT LOVER.

At the Marlborough-street Police Court on Thursday, Charles Admore, 30, described as a cabinet-maker, of Euston-road, was charged on remand with annoying Anthony Clarkson, of Howland-street, by forcing himself into his shop.—Whilst prosecutor and his family were upstairs at tea a few evenings ago the prisoner entered his shop and demanded to see Miss Clarkson, saying that he wanted to be "taken into the family." He (prosecutor) told him to go away, as he had repeatedly ordered not to come there. He would not leave, and as he seemed inclined to be "nasty" he was given into custody. Prisoner had only come out of prison that day, he having been locked up for six months for a similar offence on his failing to find sureties for his good behaviour. He frightened Miss Clarkson almost to death," and he (prosecutor) feared that he would do something serious. When arrested the accused told the constable that he had "come for Miss Clarkson," and would not go away without her. He would "either marry her or kill her." Just at the moment Miss Clarkson entered the shop, and the prisoner struggled hard to get towards her, but was prevented from touching her.—The prisoner was further remanded for a week.

ACTION AGAINST A DUCHESS.

In the Court of Queen's Bench on Thursday, the case of Sanders v. the Duchess of Montrose was argued.—The plaintiff sued the Duchess of Montrose to recover £1,730, in regard to the supply of orchids and the filling up of a greenhouse. One item of the claim was for a thousand orchids, at a guinea apiece, and another item was for £120, also for orchids, which, it was said, were supplied on the occasion of a visit of the Prince of Wales to the defendant. The defendant contended that the claim was excessive, and beyond the contract price. The master and judge ordered £200 to be paid into court, but gave the defendant leave to defend as to the residue. Subsequently, upon an application for a stay of execution, a divisional court ordered that £700 should be paid to the plaintiff and £500 should be paid into court.—The defendant now applied for leave to defend for the amount beyond the £700 paid to the plaintiff.—Their lordships gave leave to defend beyond the £700.

THE PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY TO SUTTON.

The promoters of the bill which sought powers to construct a new railway to Sutton have given notice that they do not intend to proceed any further with the scheme during the present session. The proposed line, which was promoted by a committee, was to have commenced at a junction with the London and South-Western Railway at Raynes Park, near Wimbledon, and to have proceeded to a point near Robin Hood-lane, Bunning, and a point near Robin Hood-lane. Bunning powers were also sought over the South-Western Railway to Wimbledon, and powers were sought to enter into working agreements with the Brighton, South-Western, and District Railway Companies. The capital sought by the bill was £120,000, with borrowing powers not exceeding £40,000, and a clause provided for the payment of interest out of capital during the construction of the railway.

ALLEGED EXTENSIVE FRAUDS.

At the Bow-street Police Court on Thursday Harry Behro, 23, of 118, Sutherland Avenue, Maida Vale, and the Great Britain and Colonial Exchange, 65, Chancery-lane, was charged on warrant with obtaining tricycles of the value of upwards of £50, from Messrs. Humber and Co., of Holborn, by means of alleged false and fraudulent pretences.—Mr. Alexander prosecuted; Mr. William Churchley defended.—Evidence of the arrest was given by Detective-sergeant Gethin, and the information on which the warrant was granted was read. It alleged that the defendant had obtained three tricycles on representation that they were intended for an American gentleman, one of whom had pledged the tricycles in the name of Samuel.—Sir James Ingram said the information disclosed a fraud of apparent magnitude. He should remand the defendant, and if he was ultimately found innocent his redress would be by an action against the persons who had instituted the proceedings.

A DOCTOR CHARGED WITH FORGERY AND FRAUD.

At the Marylebone Police Court on Thursday, Arthur Augustus Munro, 40, described as a doctor, of Lewis-street, Camden Town, and Emma Munro, 30, both respectively dressed, were charged, on remand, with obtaining on 31st March from George Elliott, of 15, Duke-street, Manchester-square, various articles of ivory, worth £18, by false pretences, and with attempting to obtain a carriage clock, worth £7 10s., from Messrs. Grobe, of 24, Wigmore-street, and a pencil-case, worth £3, from Messrs. Hoffmeyer, watchmakers, of 83, Wigmore-street. The prisoners were further charged with stealing a gold watch and chain, worth £25, the property of Mrs. Emma Horder, residing at 75, Malvern-road, Dalston. In a sixth case the prisoners were charged with stealing a watch and chain, worth £13s., from John Roler, watchmaker, of Hampton.—Witnesses having been called, Warder Cook, of Holloway Ghol, said the male prisoner was sentenced at the sessions in 1881 to five years' penal servitude and three years' police supervision, after a previous conviction in 1875.—Mr. Cooke committed the male prisoner for forgery and fraud, and the woman in one case of fraud only.

The Liverpool Cathedral Committee on Friday decided to abandon the building of a cathedral, the promised subscriptions not being sufficient to justify proceeding with the scheme.

By ARTHUR GRIFFITHS.

and, and I could promise was to give him an answer on Monday. The second applicant posed me equally with an inquiry about his diet; a third complained of an unjust forfeiture (he said) of marks; a fourth was at loggerheads with the doctor, whose medicines did him no good; a fifth and sixth were dissatisfied with their original sentence, and quoted the Acts of Parliament to show that their penalties were excessive. The crowd then protested in various fashions, from pitting untrusty to fierce indignation, against the hardships of their exile, declaring they were more hardly used than any convicts at home by being prevented from receiving periodical visits from their friends. It was a sin and a shame, they insisted, to send them to Gibraltar, a thousand odd miles from home, and I could see that a longing for change in any shape was ever present, all-consuming desire with the larger proportion.

The intricacy and variety of these appeals, with my own ignorance and inability to decide them, was soon brought home to me. I could not answer a single question—I had not a word to say. Only one way offered out of this dilemma: to postpone the hearings till Monday, and in the interval work up all the information within reach.

It was a tough job, but I stuck to it. Laying hands on all the authorities available—books, rules, standing orders, printed circulars, official correspondence, and the like—the comptroller and I, with my servants had made me up a rough and ready home, and there studied the voluminous mass of details far into the night. Every spare minute next day, and again late into the next night, I worked on, conning my lessons diligently, painfully, but with ultimate success. By Monday afternoon, when the applicants were again paraded, their numbers already largely increased, I was in a position to dispose pretty summarily of all but the most complicated affairs.

One of these was especially difficult and peculiar. Ebenezer Nafton, answering to the name of Ebenezer Nafton was brought in in his turn, but, strange to say, stood silent without formulating any request.

I was writing for the moment, with head bent down, and at last looked up surprised.

"Go on," I began; "what do you want—?"

I could say no more. His face, his look, were so strange, so extraordinary, that I was fascinated and struck dumb. He was a tall man with a long gaunt face, with jet black stubble; jet black hair; jet black eyebrows, and the darkest, most mournful-looking eyes heightened the effect of the yellow mask.

If emotion—heartrending, deep-seated—was ever depicted on a human countenance, it was there before me, plainly, forcibly written upon this agonised, unhappy face. The man's eyes were full, and the great tear-drops welled over, rolling down his cheeks. His hands twitched convulsively, and his body heaved and swayed full frame.

At last he found his tongue, and, speaking slowly he gasped out:

"I wish, sir, to make a confession."

"Touched" with the man exceeding distress, I answered kindly, begging him to proceed, but to take his own time.

"Yes, sir, a full and complete confession of a awful but still undiscovered crime."

"Go on," I said, after another pause.

"The Knight-Street murder," he said. "The Knight-Street murder. The counting-house of Messrs. Blank was broken into two summers ago, the safe robbed, and the housekeeper, an aged, helpless woman, killed. She was found struck down near the safe, and it was supposed she had come upon the thieves, who had put her out of the way. She had been brained with a knuckleduster and she stabbed to the heart. The first blow had not killed her, because she was found lying soaked in blood."

"Remember, I remember," I hastily interrupted, sickened with these details.

"The murderers were never discovered. The safe was cleared away with their booty and have since eluded detection until to-day."

"What do you mean? Do you know them?"

"I do, sir, only too well. Alas! alas! it was with my mate that did the foul deed."

"Good God!" I cried, "this is most astounding! Am I to understand that you freely and voluntarily confess yourself one of the perpetrators of the Knight-Street-murder?"

"That is as Grooly sees it, and am prepared to answer for my crime. God knows it lies heavy upon my conscience! I can bear it no longer, but I must make a clean breast of all."

"There were others in it you say? You have an accomplice. Where is he? Will you tell us his name?"

"I wish to do so, sir. He is here in this prison, like myself serving out a sentence for an entirely different affair. His name is Grooly—Alber Grooly."

"Where is Grooly?" I whispered to the chief warder. "Let him besent for. We will confront these two men, and see whether the one's statement is corroborated by the other."

Nafton was marched to a corner of the office and made to stand with his face to the wall. Present Grooly was brought in from the hospital hall where he was employed as a cleaner and nurse. The two men had thus been practically apart some time, and there could surely be no collusion between them.

Grooly was round-faced, chubby-looking man who seemed to thrive on prison fare, or possibly on the extra pickings and pilferings of the hospital. He stood before me with a jaunty, cocked hand, not to say impudent air.

"Do you know this man?" I said, pointing Nafton, who was directed to approach.

Directly their eyes met, Grooly's wavered, his colour changed, his smug self-sufficiency faded out of him, and he collapsed all at once into flabby, spiritless coward.

"Do not be alarmed," he murmured; "that is to say have not seen him here, along with the rest of us."

"No!" he interrupted Nafton sternly. "You were my partner and chum in old times. We were many a job together, out and about in London and the country. Have you forgotten Knight-Street—?"

"You're not going to round on me, Nafton," whimpered Grooly. "What! blow on a pair?"

"My conscience! my conscience!" cried Nafton, with a fresh access of grief and anguish.

"Give me no rest. I see the poor old creature of a woman, the husband, me night and day in my hammock, out on the quarries, in chapel, everywhere. I cannot escape her. Blood will of God help me!"

Nafton went on muttering, more to himself than in answer to his comrade's reproaches.

"Do you repudiate this charge?" I now quired of Grooly point blank. "You are accused of complicity in the Knight-Street murder."

"By him?" Grooly nodded nervously toward Nafton, who suddenly lifted his eyes and looked at him with agonised contempt. "Grooly took no notice of it, meeting the species of awakened conscience with an attempt at defiance, but the better feeling triumphed, and presently, too, confessed the crime."

"We did it, sir, I admit; did it together, struck the first blow. Nafton finished her. Now you may do your worst. Top me, scrag me; I mind, and out on the square and scrag us both."

The whole affair was strange enough, sufficiently so to perplex a more practised confidant than myself, and I felt I must refer the case to the advice of some one. I directed two convicts to be removed each to separate cells and then, locked up singly and apart, to put their confessions on paper, being provided with fountain and writing materials for the purpose. The duly signed and certified, I forwarded, with ample covering report from myself, to the visitors, and through them to the governor, the fortress.

The same day Colonel St. came down to prison, and both Nafton and Grooly were brought before him. They were clearly and briefly cross-questioned on their confessions, and then, herded implicitly, point by point, to the original statements they had made.

"The case must be sent home to Enol."

A Dark Man and a Fair One.

At Marylebone Police Court, Charlotte Gordon, 30, a domestic servant, who appeared to be in a very weak state, was charged with stealing on the 2nd inst., from the Upper Baker-street Electric Park, silver tea spoons, twelve electro forks, a sauce ladle, a spoon ladle, four damask table cloths, and other articles to the value of £10, the property of Miss Frances Dowdle, her mistress. The prosecutrix said the prisoner had been in her service since the 6th of last month. The last time she saw prisoner was on Sunday week, about 9 p.m., when she allowed her to go to bed as she said she was not well. A Mr. Mould was staying in the house, and also another witness about nine o'clock next morning, and said the prisoner was missing. Witness at once went down to the drawing room and discovered that a despatch box had been broken open, and its contents abstracted.—Florence Mold said she was staying in the prosecutrix's house. At five minutes past nine o'clock she went into the dining-room, and, to her surprise, found that the fire had not been lighted. She rang the bell twice, and as no one answered, she went in search of the servant, but could not find her. In the front hall she saw the servant's cap and some blood on the floor, so she called at once for Miss Downie. They searched the house and discovered that a robbery had been committed, and that the servant was not in the house.—By the Magistrate. The outer doors of the house had been closed. Witness's bed-room door was open, and where the cap and blood were found was only a short distance away. The latch key was also missed.—Police-constable Smith, 118 K Division, said he received information from Detective-inspector Robson, of the D Division, on the 1st inst., that the woman he wanted was at the Poplar Infirmary, High-street. Fogarty was there and found the prisoner under treatment for having attempted to commit suicide. He saw the prisoner, and she handed him a letter (which the magistrate perused) which she said she had written herself. He then went to Poplar Railway Station, and found that a parcel had been left to be called for, addressed to "F. Johnson." That parcel he now produced. It contained the greater part of the stolen property. He next went to 43, Grundy-street, where he delivered the parcels to Mrs. Green, who lived there, and who said she knew the prisoner had been lodging, and where he discovered the man who was taking care of her. That day (Monday) he went to the Poplar Infirmary and arrested the prisoner, and gave her discharge by the doctor. He told her the charge, and, in reply, she said she did not know how she came to do it. On the way to this court she made

The Following Statement:

"There were two men came up to me when I was cleaning the brass at the front door, one a dark man and the other a fair man. The dark man tied a cloth round my mouth from behind and tried to pull it off and the fair man then struck me a blow on the left cheek bone. They told me that if I shouted they would shoot me, and all the people in the house, and they showed me a revolver. They asked me where my bedroom was and I told them, and they fetched my hat and jacket for me. They also brought downstairs a large bag full of something. They asked me where I was going to, and I said Poplar. They went with me, and at 42, Grundy-street, they stopped outside, and the fair man entered and engaged a room. They went out again and the men told me to get something to do in the City, and they left, saying they would see me again at night. I waited for them all the afternoon and all Tuesday and Wednesday and I hardly knew what I was doing. On Thursday morning I made the things up into a parcel and took them to the North London Railway. If I had had the money I would have sent them back to my mistress. The men told me their name was Johnson. I afterwards went to 43, Grundy-street, and bought some rat poison. They told me to buy bread and butter, and I did so. Witness said he asked her if she could not call out for the police, and she replied, "I was afraid."—By the Magistrate: The blackness about the prisoner's eyes was the result of taking the poison. She fell down in the street directly after taking it.—George Robson, detective-inspector, D Division, said he received information about the affair twenty minutes after eleven o'clock on the 2nd, and at once went to Miss Downie's house. In the passage he found a servant's cap, wet and stained, as he believed, with blood and water. He also found two locks of hair, one with blood and water, and three splashes of blood about the floor. He had submitted the things to a medical man, and he, too, was of opinion that the stains were blood and water.—Mr. Cooke asked the witness what he argued from that and Inspector Robson said that if there had been an assault he should have found pure blood, and not blood diluted with water. He produced a letter found on the prisoner addressed to a Miss Crane, daughter of Susan Crane, in which the prisoner gave a similar description of the place to that she related to the magistrates, except that in it she stated that the men let her at the top of Baker-street. He also found on her a written character dated from Levensden, in which she was described as industrious and sober. That letter was undoubtedly in the same handwriting as the other letter while she admitted had been written by herself.—Miss Downie, recalled, said she did not believe the extraordinary story which the prisoner related.—On the application of Inspector Robson, the prisoner was remanded.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE.

Mr. William Tate, head master of the Beechwood-street School, Queen's Park, appeared at Hammermith Police Court on Wednesday to answer an adjourned summons charging him with assaulting Arthur Lakeland, 13 years, living with his parents in Salisbury-street, Lisson Grove.—The boy said he had been a scholar in the school nine months. He arrived at the school about half past nine on the morning of January 27th. He ought to have been there at ten minutes to nine. He had been absent two days. He went to his place in the class room and saw Mr. Weaver (his assistant-teacher), who took him to Mr. Tate's private study. The defendant asked him why he stopped at home. He said he had pain in the chest. The defendant then said "That was with fighting. You expected beating. You will not be disappointed." About fifteen blows were struck, the boy asserted, and then he ran out of the porch, but the defendant pulled him back and delivered ten more stripes.—Mr. James Morgan, surgeon, of John Street, Edgeware-road, evidencing as to the boy's opinion was that the punishment was excessive. Mr. Weaver said that instead of giving the boy good talking to, the defendant gave him a severe castigation. Referring to the second beating, he said the conduct of the defendant was highly questionable, as it was given in the heat of temper. The question was whether the punishment was excessive. Even if the defendant had a legal right he thought that he had largely exceeded it. He fined him £10, with 43 15s. costs.—Notice of appeal was given.

The Lord Mayor presided on Wednesday evening at the dinner in aid of the German Hospital Dalston, and, after pleading the cause of the institution, alluded to the Mansion House Furore for the relief of those rendered destitute by the floods in Prussia, expressing a hope that it would be paid enough to be borne without evidence sympathy between England and Germany.

A LADY WRITING ON HOME DRESSMAKING.

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RELIGION, GOD AND ALL THINGS. An Epistle. By J. Spratley. Boston, 1890. Pp. 32. Published by Dwyer and Lundy, 25, Bowdoin-street.—The author, in this striking poem, apologises for the publication of the poem separately from the work it is intended to introduce, on the ground that he desires critical enlightenment as to his merits and defects before going any farther. With this intimation before us, we have no hesitation in specifying cumbersome style as one of the chief faults. The reader often has to try back again and again before he can master the meaning of some long and involved sentence. It could be an improvement, too, did Mr. Spratley eschew a considerable portion of the adjectives in which his soul delights. There are many passages, otherwise full of beauty, which are largely spoilt by being overloaded with these excrecences.

OLD BOSTON; AN AMERICAN HISTORICAL ROMANCE. By A. de Grassie Stevens. One vol. Published by George Allen, Orlington, Kent.—It is not very long since we favourably noticed Mr. Stevens' "The Lost Dauphin," a book of considerable literary quality. The present volume is not inferior to it in that respect. It is written with much vigour, and carries a good head of interest, while the local colouring is put in with both cleverness and accuracy. There is a certain old-fashioned quaintness in Mr. Stevens' style, which harmonises with the subject matter dealt with in this novel, and although this sometimes imparts a stilted tone to the dialogue, it brings the reader into touch with the staid and serious society of old Boston.

SELL'S DICTIONARY OF THE WORLD'S PRESS FOR 1898. By J. Sell. One vol. Published at 167 and 169, Fleet-street.—Mr. Sell appears determined to make this publication surpass even the London Directory in bulk. The present issue extends to between 1,300 and 1,400 pages, filled with all manner of valuable information for advertisers. In addition to this matter, the editor has had several exhaustive articles written expressly for the work dealing with subjects connected with the press. The gallery of editors' portraits is enlarged considerably, and so are the other illustrations. We note, however, that in some details, the typesetter is in a brood's down to date, a grave defect in a work aspiring to an authoritative character.

MRS. BATHIE AND IRISH PRESS GUIDE. One vol. Price 1s. Published by Frederick May, 150, Piccadilly.—There will be many, we suspect, who will prefer this compact and carefully compiled volume to the bulky tome we have just noticed. So far as we have been able to test it, Mr. May's handiwork is commendably accurate, and may be safely relied upon by advertisers. It only deals, however, with the press of the United Kingdom, but within that province it is quite a model of what such a directory ought to be.

In the April issue of the *National Review* the Hon. George M. Curzon, M.P., in continuance of his paper of last month, treats of the modus operandi he would recommend in the reconstruction of the House of Lords, a subject which he earnestly urges should be dealt with by the present Government, although one would imagine their hands are tolerably well filled at present. The writer, who has had the assistance of Mr. Brodric, M.P., formulates his scheme thus:—There should be four elements, viz., hereditary peers (including princes of the blood Royal, and peers who have qualified for a seat in one of various membership of the House of Commons), life peers (consisting of four lords of appeal in ordinary and fifty nominees of the Crown); ex officio peers (the archbishops and bishops); and elected peers (fifty by the House of Commons and the remainder by the colonies). Excluding the colonial representatives (whose numbers are not given), the scheme gives a body 323 strong, as it is proposed to limit the hereditary element to 200. How far such a reform of the Upper House is practicable or wise would be acceptable, we should hesitate to say, but Mr. Curzon's paper will, no doubt, be the means of other schemes being published, and out of the chaff some good wheat may be gathered. A very chatty and amusing paper is that in which Mr. Champneys, M.A., gives the character of the devil in the Middle Ages. Lord Lyndhurst deals in a manner at once lucid and sympathetic with the prospects of the Liberal Unionists and the Government; while the subject of intemperance in India is dilated upon by Mr. C. T. Buckland, quoting largely from the report of a commission appointed in 1886 by the Government to enquire into the habits of Europeans and natives in Bengal, and presided over by Mr. Edgar, of which, however, he says that it is so lengthy that few will read it, and fewer still understand it. The conclusion arrived at is the same in all such papers, viz., that the only specific is to trust to the effects of education. Inevitable gamblers would do well to read the article by Mr. R. A. Proctor on "The Certainties of Chance," and perhaps they may arrive at the same conclusion as the writer, that a run of luck is simply running blindly to ruin. Articles that will no doubt be widely read in this excellent number are "Leverage," by Miss Arthur Benson; "Fretting," by the Earl of Pembroke; and "Education in Agriculture," by Professor Wallace.

In a case before the Appeal Court this week, appeared that the attesting witnesses to a codicil to a will were unable to swear that they saw the testatrix sign the document, or, in fact, that she had ever seen her signature. Lord Justice Cotton held that it was a sufficient acknowledgment for the testatrix of her signature when she presented the document to the two persons and asked them to attest. Lords Justices Fry and Lopes concurring, the validity of the codicil was established.

PUBLICATIONS.

THE "OUT OF WORK" SONG BOOK.—RANKIN AND CO., DRY-COURT, STRAND. Price 1s.

Twentieth Edition, post free, 1s.

DR. WATTS ON ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS.—Treatise on the only Successful Method of Curing the Disease. By ROBERT WATTS, M.D., F.R.S., F.R.C., &c. London: C. Mitchell and Co., Red Lion-court, Fleet-street, and Simpkin and Co., Stationers' Hall-court.

GRAND MUSICAL COMPETITION.—Open to all the World. For Vocalists, Musicians, and Composers. Sold by this Week's Music for One Penny. Office: SAVOY HOUSE, STRAND, LONDON.

A RATIONAL THEATRICAL TALE.—Of great interest is now appearing weekly in the Popular Halfpenny Journal, "EVERY WEEK." Entitled, "QUITE BEHIND THE SCENE." "QUITE BEHIND THE SCENE." "QUITE BEHIND THE SCENE." Ask your Newsagent on Wednesday Next For "EVERY WEEK," No. 978. In which this Romantic Story first commences.

READ THE NEW STORY. Entitled, "IN THE GOLDEN CITY." By the Author of "Answered in Jest," &c. Commenced in this week's number (No. 1,588) of "THE YOUNG LADIES' JOURNAL." THE BEST JOURNAL FOR LADIES AND FAMILIES. Which also contains the continuation of the Two Interesting Stories, "SIR GEOFFREY'S WIFE," and "OLD SANSTON GRANGE." A Complete Story. The Latest Paris Fashions for Ladies and Children, Use and Ornamental Needlework, Poetry, Original Music, Fashionable Cookery Recipes, Grains of Gold, Gracious Answers to Correspondents, &c. Price 1d., post free, 1d.

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THROUGH THE LONG NIGHT.

By MRS. LYNN LINTON.

AUTHOR OF "PATRICIA KEMBALL," "THE ATONE-
MENT OF LAM BURLAND," "FATON CARR,"
Etc., Etc.

BOOK THE SECOND.

CHAPTER VI.

SPREADING THE NET.

If Mrs. Asplines' dinner had been successful in its pleasure-giving power, so was that at the Dover House, which was larger and more inclusive. It took in all the former guests and some half-a-dozen more, among whom were Mr. and Mrs. Clanciarde. Estelle would not go. She had been asked, of course, but in her self-elected state of quasi widowhood she had preferred the solitude of home, where she might think of her distant and ever-absent Charles, and carry her remembrance of him to the quietude of her own room. And Mrs. Clanciarde was only cruel when the "sacra fames" was gnawing too fiercely at her vitals, she let her daughter indulge her somewhat wayward humour and forego the dinner, which perhaps, the mother reasoned, a girl could not be expected to enjoy. Had it been a dance she might have insisted; but a dinner to a girl who prefers bread and butter to anything else and calls "à la sobriété" onion sauce—that was of the nature of pearls before swine; and Mrs. Clanciarde disapproved of waste.

For herself, she went to the Dover House as a matter of duty, so she said. It was only right to cultivate neighbourly feelings, and to help the Kingshouses when they took the trouble of entertaining such people as the Asplines. She put on an air of saintly self-sacrifice when she said this. She was really quite touching when she put on this air. She did it so well, and looked so sweet and tender! In secret her social creed was largely coloured by the doctrine of entertaining angels as guests, and she was always glad of a shake in the social kaleidoscope. One never knows, she used to say to herself. Fortune has been left to people before now on the mere chance of identity of name—on the mere chance expression of interest—on a little service rendered at a fruitful moment when the mustard seed was ready to start into the forest tree. And at all times to jostle against some shining unit—some gilded fragment—gives lustre, adds consideration, and may bring profit. Gold has the habit of rubbing off, and even fragments are better than none at all. She had heard—who had not?—of this new rich man who had suddenly descended as if from the skies on the Asplines—like Jove in that shower of gold which neither ancient nor modern Danaës can resist. As yet she had not seen him. She was not on visiting terms with the Asplines;—she wished now that she had been—Anthony had not shown at church as a good citizen and sound Churchman should have done;—and the weather had been too bad for walking out. Since they had put down their carriage—oh! that unlucky George!—she had been able to go about so little, and was so dependent on the weather! Hence she had been fed only by reports of the new Crusade, and she was not sorry to see him for herself.

All the same she tried to make herself believe that she did not give ear to rose-coloured fables, where the Asplines were *les belles parvenues*. She was perfectly sure—at least she said so—that this much wanted phoenix would turn out to be only a jackdaw dressed in peacocks' feathers to deceive the unwary. A clever person, with the gift of idealisation, might with a few judicious verbal touches make the most commonplace creature a type, and as heroic as typical. Caleb Stagg himself, could be painted up into the possible imitation of a possible person—had she not herself borne witness to this power, when it had suited her purpose? And if he could be idealised into anything better than a miner's son, brushed and washed in his Sunday clothes, then could this friend of those Asplines women—this shower of gold framed like a man, and come as a second Jove from the sky. As their friend, indeed, he could not be worth much; and she did not believe in Lady Elizabeth's judgment. Lady Elizabeth was a dear creature—a very dear creature—but she had her mantes like any one else; and every goose in her flock was a snow-white swan.

No, she, Mrs. Clanciarde, the wife of a ruined husband and the mother of a beautiful daughter, would see things with her own eyes before she allowed her hope to run away with her as it had done more than once in her life before. This time she would be cautious, and she would test the ground before trusting herself to walk on it. With the secret determination to fascinate this newcomer, whom yet she spoke of with not so much judicious reserve as prepared hostility, Mrs. Clanciarde dressed herself with more than ordinary care—and she was never negligent of her appearance. She was one of those women indeed, who would have found a prison tolerable with a pier-glass and superb toilettes. To-night she made herself really beautiful; for she was one of those pretty women who know every turn and trick of adornment. Had she been Estelle herself, free-hearted, in the marriage market, and anxious for a settlement, she could not have been more solicitous to look well—more particular in her methods. And the result justified the means. She looked superb, and she knew it. She had that indescribable *chic*, that look of foreign distinction, which no daughter of Albion can imitate. She was like some old picture of Watteau—the French manœuvre of tradition translated into modern life; and that skillfully applied bare foot, with that one artful little patch, completed the charm.

"How handsome you look to-night, Louise!" said that unlucky George, seeking to propitiate his tart-tongued goddess as well as sincerely stirred to unwonted admiration.

He laid his hand on her white, plump arm with a caressing half-timid touch.

"It is a wonder that I have any looks at all after your conduct," was her cold reply, drawing away her arm as if some creeping thing had crawled over it.

And her facile, foolish, good-natured husband, with his restless eyes and fatuous smile, sank into silence and calculated the gains that would come from that last investment in a newly-discovered diamond mine. She was long past that state of mind when his compliments could enliven her, or his caresses give her pleasure. The utmost limits to which her philosophy could reach was to bear with him in silence—which was not in patience.

At dinner, Mrs. Clanciarde was seated next to Anthony Harford, and on her as on every one, his wonderful manner of reserve and dignity made the sharp impression of a new experience. That odd combination of the wild west "scout" with the English gentleman gave him a flavour as of a cultivated wild fruit. He was as delightful as the Huron, and Mrs. Clanciarde did what she could to improve her chance. Though not her assigned cavalier—this was Mr. Stewart, whom she knew by heart—she talked to Anthony Harford as women do talk at dinner to the wrong man to the exclusion of their own partner. And he, though seated next to Lady Kinghouse, was not unwilling to divide himself between the two. The vivacity of this striking-looking woman, with her dark, bright eyes and prematurely white hair dressed à la Pompadour, amused and interested him. She was brighter than the general run of Englishwomen, he thought; bright enough for a Bostonian, had her good angel willed her that supremacy; and so far as she went she was unique. She was a decided improvement on that good, fat, generous-handed Cooky, if not quite up to the Kingshouses. They indeed, were a veritable enthusiasm. They were so nobly simple in their comparative poverty—so truly the old ideal of English aristocracy. The countess was grande dame even over her embroidery; and Lady Elizabeth was the very flower of humanity—the very essence of spiritual beauty. Anne Asplines had been now fallen into complete insignificance.

She had drifted to the rear in the social phalanx, which was headed by this one delightful figure—the Asplines, with her golden tresses—this faint, with her slender throat and gentle smile. He did not know, but he half believed that he was in love with Lady Elizabeth. He was not sure, for he felt for her differently from what he had ever felt for any woman in his life before; and he was not quite able to master his own sensations. Nor did he know her mind. She was sweet and friendly and gracious as a winged angel might be. But how about the woman? He had watched her these last days as keenly as he had sometimes looked for the trail of an Indian or for the smoke of a sheltering cabin. He fancied that her cheeks had taken a deeper colour when he came upon her suddenly in the lane—that her eyes looked both brighter and softer when they met his—than when he entered the room this evening, that inner kind of smile which tells of secret pleasure had come over her face like so much sunlight. He fancied all this—he did not know. The reserve of a modest English girl makes divination difficult. Anthony was no fop, and he was afraid to think that those shadowy signs meant more than so many accidents with which he had really no vital connection. He was a little at sea all through, and so was forced to let things drift; conscious only that this lovely-minded girl spoke to his higher nature as no woman yet had done, and made him feel as if he must be his best self when in her presence. But how she regarded him—that was her secret; and he could not fathom it, at least, not yet.

Nevertheless, though his thoughts hung about him with a filmy kind of consciousness, like the mist-wreath rising from the mountains, he enjoyed Mrs. Clanciarde's vivacious talk, as she intended he should; contenting his sense of fidelity by looking across the table at Lady Elizabeth, sitting immediately opposite, and including her in the conversation whenever he had the chance. And how beautiful she looked to-night! Not with the beauty which stirs a man's senses or mounts like strong wine to his brain, but with the beauty that calms while it inspires, that brings the glory of heaven down to the earth for sweet sustenance and illumination. Anthony thought her again and again the loveliest lady he had ever seen, and wondered with increasing wishfulness what she thought of him, and whether she liked him in truth and very deep—liked him below the surface and not only just upon it.

Thus the dinner passed, and every one was amused and thought it the pleasantest ever given at the Dover House; and wished that the Kingshouses were richer, and could launch out into the same kind of entertainments as those of olden days, which had helped to impoverish them now—since the wish scraped off some of the lustre of their pleasure by regret, and watered down their wine quite unnecessarily. But this is after the manner of men who will look before and after whatever it costs them!

When the gentlemen came into the drawing-room, Anthony went straight to where Lady Elizabeth and Mrs. Clanciarde were sitting together, discussing Shakespeare and the musical glasses with apparent interest and real fathoms—Lady Elizabeth, thinking of Anthony Harford with pleasure, Mrs. Clanciarde with unrest. As he joined them, what was dark to Anthony was clear as daylight to Mrs. Clanciarde, and she cast a glance what he had not spelt correctly after long looking.

"She is in love with him," thought Estelle's mother; "and I will conquer."

Something stirred her as if it had been a sword drawn from its scabbard. The passion of the fight, love of intrigue, desire of conquest, all leaped up in sudden flame in her heart. Bored for the kind of warfare as she was, how seldom had her talents been utilised here in this old Sleepy Hollow—this Noah's ark kind of society! But now had come the hour—and the man, and Mrs. Clanciarde consecrated herself to the struggle as fervently as ever a young squire consecrated himself to the laws of his knighthood.

"Will you come and see me, Mr. Harford?" she said to her blandest way. "I have a few old Japanese curios that are very rare. Some of them indeed are unique, and were brought from Japan when the manufactures were not spoiled for the English markets, and before collecting had become a passion. I shall be glad to show them to you if you care for such things. They are fine, are they not, dear?" to Lady Elizabeth.

"Beautiful!" answered that guileless Asplaine. "Quite worth seeing," she added.

"Thank you. I will go with pleasure," said Anthony.

He had not the faintest notion who Mrs. Clanciarde was, nor where she lived, but Delight would tell him, and perhaps accompany him. She was a very amusing and vivacious lady—that was all he knew and all he cared for at the present moment.

"When will you come?—to-morrow?" she asked.

"How long do you stay at Hindfoot? Perhaps, in any case, you had better come to-morrow."

"I will call on you to-morrow," he answered.

"I am not staying many days longer. I have out-stayed by time as it is."

"I am sure you will admire my curios," she repeated.

"I am coming for you, not for your old relics," he said bluntly.

And Mrs. Clanciarde's heart gave a throb like a girl's. If this stranger were so easily charmed with her, what would he be with Estelle? And what a splendid-looking creature he was!—really a conqueror among heroes! How far had he come with Lady Elizabeth? Not that she thought she was as useful to any human being could be, not to have more than the normal senses, and she did not see any indications of an express understanding between them. She thought that he was fishing and she was nibbling; but what of that! Her drag-net would take the ground, and all else would be of no avail. So they parted, and it was agreed that next day Anthony should go to Les Saules to call on Mrs. Clanciarde, and see her old Japanese curios, bought before the manufacture of porcelain enamel and lacquer had been ruined to suit the debased taste of the red-haired "foreign devils."

"Oh! said Mrs. Asplines, with the briskness of a courtesan, when he told her of his engagement; "that's in the wind, is it?"

"What is in what wind?" he asked.

"Well, you have fallen into the hands of the Philistines, that's all," she answered.

"This Mrs. Clanciarde is the most manoeuvring woman in Kingshouse. She is like a spider with flies. You are done for, Anthony, if you do not see through her."

He laughed.

"I am not afraid of her," he said lightly.

"It would be better if you were," said Mrs. Asplines sharply. "Pride goes before a fall, Anthony, and you are not the first man who has fallen into a trap."

"Don't see the trap," he returned.

"And I do," said Cooky with a certain viciousness by no means usual to her.

"And then she is so proud," said Anne languidly; "and what of it, I should like to know? They are ruined, and everyone expects to hear of their being sold up—any day. Why should they be proud?"

"Then you, too, don't like them?" asked Anthony.

"I like them?" she answered quite quietly. "I seldom dislike any one, do I, mother? But if there is one person in the world that I hate it is Mrs. Clanciarde. I wish she was dead!"

Anthony looked at her in amazement.

"What queer cusses women are," he thought to himself.

What was the meaning of all this? What corn of poor, fat, good-natured Cooky's had this quasi-Bostonian trodden on? Where had sleepy, stupid, unprudent little Anne been pinched? The mutual attitude had been that of so many clothed and decorated icebergs. What tempest in a teapot had shaken these atoms into antagonism, and what was the solution of the mystery?

All that, however, was their affair. He had nothing to do with it. As a gentleman he must keep

his promise to this vivacious French marquise-like woman; a promise which, if the Asplines had given him the map of the country in good time, he would probably not have made. But Mrs. Asplines had said nothing. She never did speak against her neighbours. She was far too clever, knowing that, for a woman of doubtful holding in her own person to be cited as a standard, a retailer of unvarnished stories, a utterer of ill-considered remarks, is to really say the branch on which she is sitting and to come headlong to the ground. Only when caught out by the sudden impact of an unpleasant surprise, did she forget her habitual caution and launch forth impolitic observations—as now to Anthony, with whom however, no harm was done. He was not the man to repeat or betray; and he would not tell it even to the recs that she had said this special Midas had her ears beneath her crown. But she was vexed and annoyed more than she could say that she had undertaken to go to Les Saules, fearing she knew not what of loss to herself and complications all round.

CHAPTER VII.

HIS PART.

The next day Anthony prepared to go to Les Saules, as agreed on. Mrs. Asplines had evidently forgotten the engagement, for she proposed that her guest should drive with her and Anne to see the Fairy Hawk, which was one of the "points" of the place, and which would be so lovely to-day! There had been a two days' sharp frost, and the icicles would be now beautiful—really something worth seeing.

"You will come of course?" she said, with a flushed face and a rather quick voice.

"Where is your Hawk?" asked Anthony. "In what direction?"

"Through Kingshouse, and on the Lancaster-road."

"Anywhere near Les Saules?"

"Les Saules!" Mrs. Asplines spoke in a tone of surprise. "Oh dear no! What have we to do with Les Saules?"

"Well, I have if you have not," he returned. "I am going to see Mrs. Clanciarde to-day."

"Oh dear no! Mrs. Asplines cringing lips. "So you persist, do you?"

"Persist in keeping an appointment?" he laughed. "Why of course I do."

"Then you'll repent it," said Mrs. Asplines, turning coldly away, as one turns from a son of perdition finally abandoned to his evil ways.

It was all very inexplicable to Anthony, and he exhausted conjecture in vain. He finally came to the conclusion that the vivacious half-foreign looking woman was a runaway wife, whose little slip society had agreed to condone in a half-hearted way as a strict sister, like that virtuous and astute Cooky, holding aloof no matter who drew near. He was sorry to offend his hostess, but an engagement is an engagement; and Anthony was not the man to allow his actions to be influenced by any one, man or woman, and woman no more than man. He would do what he had undertaken to do, and make it all right with the Asplines when he came home. He would thus sit on the two stools of tradition, and not come to the ground. He would hold with the bars and beat with the hounds, and see that dear Delight, whose heart was a pleasant talk with that entertaining lady, who might almost have been a Bostonian; and he did not see what harm could come of it, nor why his old friend should "ra."

He was not going to make love to her, nor carry her off at arms from her good-looking husband with the weak chin and fatuous smile; and he could not for the life of him see any valid objection to the arrangement, turn it which way he would. Meanwhile, he would go round by the Dover House, and see that dear Delight, whose heart was a pleasant talk with that entertaining lady, who might almost have been a Bostonian; and he did not see what harm could come of it, nor why his old friend should "ra."

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"But you are above that track, I am sure! I should as soon expect lightning from a rainbow as jealousy from Lady Elizabeth!"

"I hope I should never be so poor-hearted or mean-spirited," was her answer, made gravely and with earnestness.

"The loveliest lady in England!" was Anthony's unspoken thought, repeated two or three times, as he went on his way to Les Saules—"just the loveliest! She has a heart as pure as crystal and a mind as bright as silver. I wonder if she could ever be brought to love me? She is worth trying for. With such a wife as that all my unrest would be over—all my fever would be quieted. I should turn then to the real country gentleman's life, and be a model landlord and a just magistrate. She would help me to be good. She is goodness herself incarnate. No man could be so good but his best self when with her; and her love would honour the proudest and add lustre to the best. If she could be brought to really love me? Does she in any degree already? Sometimes I think she does, and then—I would not like to bet on it! She is so sweet and gentle to every one—but she does not change colour so often to any one else as she does with me. I wonder!—or am I a damned fool?"

And as he thought this last phrase, he turned into the gate of Les Saules, and soon found himself in the room where Mrs. Clanciarde was alone.

He received him graciously, with just that amount of cordiality which keeps on the right side of gush, and is as far from niggardiness as from excess. She said she was glad to see him, and she did not ask after his hostesses. She spoke of the pleasant dinner they had had yesterday evening, and called Lady Elizabeth a dear soul. She greatly lamented her want of practicality—rather, her regret was as a fringe to her admiration, for she first praised her for her goodness and then added the depressing addenda, as one who should remark on the rather rumpled condition of a shining garment, and the slightly tattered state of a phoenix's tail feathers. The shining garment was a fact, and the phoenix was a fact; and the rumpled condition of the one, and the tattered state of the other, did not lessen the essential value of either. All the same—she lamented.

"In what way is she impractical?" asked Anthony, feeling as if his lance were in rest and the bugle had sounded.

"She is too good," returned Mrs. Clanciarde, with a soft smile. "As if any one can be too good! I suppose I ought to say that we are all too bad for her."

She said this with the nicest little air of apology and self-accusation. She was really a wonderfully charming woman!

"To be too good is not a very general fault," said Anthony, answering her smile. "For me, I think Lady Elizabeth just perfect."

"She is indeed delightful," returned Mrs. Clanciarde. "It is a pity she belongs to such a family."

LYCEUM.

ST. JAMES'S.

With that most whimsical of humorists, Mr. W. S. Gilbert, love of paradox seems to be the ruling passion, in fact as well as fiction. He has been having been erroneously announced in the *Liverpool Journal* as representative for the none of Pygmalion in his own play, the dramatist has contradicted the statement by the published declaration: "I am a sufficiently good actor to know what a very bad actor I am."—A new first piece, by Mr. W. Best, entitled "Physical Law, and Divinity," will shortly be played at Terry's before a Sweet Lavender, which is an attracting crowded audience, and might be said to be the date of the interesting Olympian matinee, at which Mr. Willard will give his first performance in London of Macbeth, to the Lady Macbeth of Mrs. Bandmann Palmer, who reappearing upon the metropolitan stage after protracted absence in the colonies, revived pleasant memories of the Juliet of her youthful prime.—As regards the production of the new drama, by Mr. J. F. Nisbet, entitled "Dorothy Gray," at the Princess's on Tuesday, "it may be said to suit best." The promised new piece, "Too Lovely to Sink By'd," the rollicking burlesque by Mr. Horace Lennard, played for the first time on Easter Monday at the Crystal Palace Theatre, was fully confirmed on the representation of the piece at the Strand on Wednesday afternoon, played with the same cast, led by the lively and agile Miss Fan Leslie as William. A still worthier reception was fairly won on the same day at the Olympic an original play, called "Barren Land," written in collaboration by Messrs. H. Byatt and J. Magnay. The piece, while it shows construction skill in the handling of the incidents not striking in language and more distinguished by its literary language and freshness of characterisation. A manly young squire, Mr. Fuller Mellish developed still further the histrionic earnestness and passion which have already brought him into the front rank of our rising actors. Mr. Julian Croft played with his wonted sincerity and vigour the part of a rascally land agent; and Mr. A. Wood using his quiet unobtrusive method, scored well as a quaint ancient rustic learned in folk lore. The two leading female characters were excellently played by Misses "the anointed heroine in Miss Webster, and the sinister schemer in Miss Irish. The welcome accorded to "Barren Land" purely upon its merits, should lead to a speedy transfer of the piece to the evening programme of a West-end theatre.—Before giving up the Globe, at the expiration of his term on 12th May, Mr. Wilson Barrett will produce his own adaptation of "Hail Caine" as "The Deemster." This curious old tale, as well as will use through the hands of Miss Leslie, as novel as in Isle of Man, signifies a judge.—Miss C. Adams, the emotional actress of New York, has challenged the clergy to come and judge for herself whether the charge of immorality levelled by a section only of the New York press against a version of "Martyre" is just. Another adaptation of the piece, it will be remembered, was acted by Mrs. Kendal, at the St. James's, under the title of "The Wife's Sacrifice." On Monday night Barry and his opera-bouffe company will give their re-appearance in London at the Strand Theatre, in the new play of "The Chief of the Name." Mr. Nell will play one of the chief

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[Communications intended for this column should be delivered at the office not later than 4 p.m. on

transport officer in Major Kewley, late 2nd L.A. Of the three battalions one of them had even a Volunteer adjutant. Although working together entirely with Volunteers, excepting two adjutants, we believe that Colonel Twentyman was well pleased with the officers and men, though a report has not yet been made public.

Headquarters, in drill order, on Saturday here, at 3 p.m.; musketry instruction for recruits, at 4 p.m.; bugle band musty note and lessons. Lieutenant A. G. Gooden has

day, drum, fire, and bugle practice, at 8.30 p.m. Wednesday, musketry instruction and Morris tube practice, at 8.0 p.m. Thursday, musketry instruction, at 8.0 p.m. Friday, musketry instruction, at 8.0 p.m. Non-commissioned officers, at 8.0 p.m. Saturday, battalion drill, at 8.45 p.m.; drill order (platoonage). Platoonage will be worked on all day. Musketry 2nd class firing at Wornwood Scrub on every Saturday from 10.0 a.m. Members desirous of firing their rifles will be required to attend the following classes:—
1st class, at 10.0 a.m. on every Saturday.
2nd class, at 10.0 a.m. on every Saturday.
3rd class, at 10.0 a.m. on every Saturday.
4th class, at 10.0 a.m. on every Saturday.
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THE WICKLOW MURDER CASE

A number of the delegates of the International Conference on Sugar Bounties left London Thursday morning by special train on a visit to Windsor, where they were shown over the Castle and other places of interest in the vicinity. They were entertained at luncheon by Sir John Cowdrey.

AN ISLINGTON SLANDER CASE.

THE ALLEGED ASSURANCE FRAUDS.

In the Recorder's Court, Belfast, on Thursday,

A QUESTION OF LEGITIMACY--CLAIM

TO \$100,000.
In the Probate Division on Thursday 8

A military riot occurred on Wednesday night

Portsmouth, in which several soldiers and civilians were seriously injured.

HARNES'S ELECTROPATHIC BELT should be worn by every body. It is guaranteed to generate a mild continuous current of electricity which will restore health, strength, and energy to the whole system, and will cure all diseases of the nervous debility, liver and kidney diseases, ladies' ailments, sleeplessness, &c. Illustrated pamphlet, post free, contains copies of thousands of testimonials from royalty, physicians, and the nobles and society. Address free trial, personal or by letter. Send for private advice form. Full particulars in Harnes's World-famous Electropathic Belt will be sent (post free) on application.—Address, Mr. C. B. Harnes, Limited, 10, Old's Lane, London, W. (corner of Rathbone Place).

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From *Mr. Balfour* trying not to have a row if he can help it. The money, of late, has been falling off very badly. America, having given her confidence to Mr. Gladstone, while waiting for the happy result, has stopped the supplies. In a pecuniary sense, the patriots would have been better off had they never had anything to do with the Grand Old Man. The present attempt to revive the rumpus of a year ago is brought about simply by the failure of revenue. Since Liberalism made Home Rule respectable, it has been nearly as bad to be an Irish member as it has to be an Irish landlord. A new fighting Mahdi is announced in the Sudan. There must be some mistake. At all events, he will hardly induce John Bull to fight until the Liberals get in again, and we have a peace and retrenchment Government. There is a glut of elementary teachers. So many would-be pedagogues are in the market that it is difficult for a school to find one who would be to open a school in which they might turn and turn about—educate one another? By no other method will they ever know that, under the present idiotic system, it is impossible to learn anything that is of the slightest use to anybody.

OUR VOLUNTEERS.
The rain drops were falling,
The mud was appalling,
The east wind was galling,
But onward with cheers,
They went shoulder to shoulder,
With every breeze blowing,
Declaring none bolder
Than our Volunteers.

At present no danger
Affects each gay ranger;
No menacing stranger
On the far coast appears.
But if a havoc should appear,
Our land we've defended
At home, by our splendid
And brave Volunteers.
Not forced into battle,
When keen weapons rattle,
Like ignorant cattle
In panic or fears.
Not rash or defiant,
But strong as a giant,
Britain's calm and reliant
On her Volunteers.

(From *Fun*.)

SUNDAY DIVERSION.—Curate: Good-bye. I must go now. I've got to prepare my sermon—and I don't know what I'm to preach about.—Layman: Oh, about ten minutes, and then come over to lunch.

THE WORST OF BEING TOO FUNNY.—Cheek-stone (who is decidedly of a humorous turn): I say, old man, that was a stuck-up set of prizes at old Brown's last night! By Jove, though, I did manage to score off them a bit, eh?—Host (his fervent admirer): I believe you, my boy! They all said what a healthy little spirit you were when you'd gone. And if you'd have stopped five minutes later, you'd have had a regular triumph, for old Brown was going to kick you down stairs!

(From *Fun*.)

AN "INSPECTOR."—(Scene, a Suffolk village school. Government Inspector examining a class on the subject of the Witch of Endor and Samuel's Ghost.)—Government Inspector: Well, boys, what did the Witch of Endor think she saw? (Pause.)—G.I.: Plaze, sur, that was an apparition.—G.I.: Quite right; but what is an apparition? (Longer pause.)—Second Boy: Plaze, sur, that is a specter.—G.I.: Yes, yes, a specter, that is so far; but what's a specter? (Prolonged pause.)—Bright Boy (in wild falsetto): Plaze, sur, that is a gentleman as goes about examin'g souls!

HARMONY AND DISCORD.—Miss Maydew: Do something, Mr. Mellowne. I'll accompany you.—Mr. Mellowne (expressively): Certainly, Miss Maydew. Nothing is nicer than to be accompanied by you.—Miss Maydew: Then sing, "For ever and for ever."—Miss Crabbe (sotto voce): The forward minx!
She was a very lofty person who applied for a situation as cook. "Have you a follower?" asked Aunt Mouldberly. "A follower?" exclaimed the lofty person, in a most indignant tone. "A follower? Why, he has a regular vanload of followers—half sizes and sorts; but I never encourage any on 'em!" Aunt Mouldberly did not engage the L.P., who retired smoldering like a war-horse.

(From *Judy*.)

HONEYMOON AMBITIONS.—"Oh, ma, darling, I am so glad to get back from that horrible honeymoon," sobbed the fair bride, flinging her arms round the elderly matron's neck. "Peter has behaved like a perfect brute." "What has he been guilty of, the wretch? Tell me at once, Daisy, my poppet," exclaimed the anxious matron. "Why, the other day he insisted on my poor dear Fido being thoroughly washed with some abominable dog soap, and the pet has done nothing but shiver ever since. Yesterday he actually refused to buy me a duck of a bonnet that took my fancy, and this morning he wouldn't lend me his razor when I wanted to cut my curls," cried the sorely-afflicted girl. "Just wait till I see the tyrant!" growled the old lady.

"METAL MORB ATTRACTIVE."—"Come and hear my lecture to-night on temperance and thrift; you will have a hearty welcome." No, thank you, I'm going to my pal Jim Brown's to-night, where I'll be the guest of a hearty welcome and a hearty supper, too."

"You may say what you like about the delight of a country stroll, but one who has just come back says that a thorn in the bush is any day worth two in the hand."

(From *Jenny Fells*.)

"DORIS" HIS DUTY.—Mrs. J.: I am ashamed of you, Charles! Drink this soda-water and go to bed.—Mr. J.: I'm all right—don't want 's da warrer. Been resistin' 'njust taxashon. Had four bottles champagne b'fore they putsh duty on.
A Scrutiny of the Poll—A phrenological examination.
People Who Generally Manage to Hold Their Own.—Missers.
The "Land" of Goschen—The new Budget.
The Real National Life Association—Perpetual pensioners and sincere office-holders.
A Fishy Character—The poison d'Avril.
A Man of Metal—Lord Brassey.
A Small House Party—The baby.
A Form of Government—The Treasury bench.
A Bank Holiday "Romance"—Vowing you enjoyed yours.
A Sue-perior Person—A litigant.

(From *Ally Sloper*.)

"If hever you should get inter a row in the street, young gent, my h'advise is prop him fust, and then 'ave yer explanation arterwards if yer like," said a professor of the noble art of self defence. "Why is that, pray?" inquired his pupil. "Why, ain't it on'y nateral? you could use yer hands afore yer could yer tongue, couldn't yer?"

"I say, Billy," exclaimed Lardi Longpox the other evening, "can you tell me how it is tall men always get such little women for their wives?" "Well, I'm not sure," answered Billy, "because I've never been a tall man, but I've heard it is because a tall man has to lie across from corner to corner in bed, and if he had a tall wife of course it would interfere with that arrangement."

"We always have a day's holiday on the 21st of June," said a schoolboy. "Let's see; that's the longest day. Oh, I say! don't you wish you lived in Spitzbergen?" asked another schoolboy. "No. What for?" inquired the first schoolboy. "Why, I was reading this morning that there the longest day lasts for three months and a half!"

"I say, conductor, is this 'bus going on?" exclaimed an irate passenger. "No, sir, it ain't a-moving a hinch, but it will presently," observed the calm conductor, taking advantage of the absence of the usual constabulary.

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From *St. Stephen's Review*.)

Whatever be the rights and wrongs of the betrothal dispute in Germany, there can be no question that her Majesty would be well-advised to keep out of it altogether, and I trust Lord Salisbury will prevail on her not to visit Berlin under present circumstances.

Prince Alexander of Battenberg has been shown himself to be a man of resource. Why should he not try an elopement? I can see no reason why a princess should not be thus dealt with; and were such an exploit successfully carried out, neither the Czar nor Prince Bismarck could do anything but grin and bear it.

The Queen has, I have heard, written a long personal letter to the Czar, and has induced the Princess of Wales to communicate with her sister on the same subject. I have every reason to believe that during the next few days we shall hear from St. Petersburg that the Imperial family entertain no objection to the match. The pressure put upon the Czar has been tremendous, and he is at last beginning to see that, by the terms of the Berlin Treaty, the entry of Prince Alexander into the Hohenzollern family circle ends his aspirations to return to the Bulgarian throne.

It is a mistake to speak of the German Emperor as Frederick III. He can only be called so as being the King of Prussia. In all documents relating to Germany the Kaiser signs himself "Frederick Emperor," while those relating to Prussian matters are signed "Frederick III." It is obvious that Frederick III. of Germany must be wrong, for there has already been a king bearing the same title. He reigned from 1440 to 1493.

(From *the World*.)

The Queen's private rooms at the Villa Palmieri, which are on the upper floor, have been almost entirely furnished from Windsor, her Majesty sending a bedstead, with its furniture, a bath, all the washing apparatus, a rocking-chair, two armchairs, a sofa, a writing-table, and a bureau, as well as two portraits of the Prince Consort, a box of photographs of members of the family, and a chest of books. Two carriages, a pair of horses, and a donkey-chair, with its donkey, arrived in advance of the Royal party. The Queen transacts all the State business and goes through her correspondence between breakfast and luncheon, a messenger arriving from London every other morning.

I am informed that Charlottenburg Castle is being prepared for her Majesty, who will stay there when she visits Germany. The castle needs a great deal of embellishment, for the place has not been occupied for forty years, and there is about it a barrack-like baldness and complete want of comfort; for, with the exception of a new wing, added in 1740, scarcely a shilling has been spent upon the castle since it was finished by Schlueter, the architect, in 1704. There is very little furniture left, and nothing of worth remains but the excellently carved and gilt woodwork, the wall-hangings, tapestries, and a few pictures. I hear from Berlin that a marriage is to take place between the Princess Sophia of Prussia, third daughter of the Emperor Frederick, and the Crown Prince of Greece (the Duke of Sparta), who has just concluded a winter's study at the University of Leipzig. The Crown Prince was born in August, 1868, and the princess is nearly two years his junior. The bride will have to enter the Orthodox Greek Church after she has been formally betrothed.

The accomplishment of the German Crown Princess is expected shortly. There is now no fear of a failure of the direct line of succession in the Royal family of Prussia, as the Crown Prince already has four sons.

It was expected that the Crown Prince of Greece would marry one of the daughters of the Prince of Wales, but the union of first cousins is strictly prohibited in the Greek Church; and such an alliance would, therefore, have excited loud protests in quarters which King George would not find it prudent to offend.

(From *Truth*.)

The Queen will not give a garden party this year, but the Prince and Princess of Wales will have one at Marlborough House about the middle of July.

There are to be two State balls and two State concerts at Buckingham Palace this season. The first ball and concert will take place after Whit-sun-tide (probably on May 1st and June 6th respectively), and the second ball and concert are to be deferred till after Ascot.

The Prince of Wales will arrive at Newmarket on Tuesday from Sandringham, and will come to town after the races on Thursday, on which day the Princess and the young princesses are also expected at Marlborough House.

The Emperor Frederick can leave his widow a jointure of from £20,000 to £40,000 a year, with the use of a residence in Berlin and a country seat, and he can settle allowances upon her younger children; but, unless these last are of moderate amount, they would be liable to reduction by his successor. The Emperor William has left legacies to all his grandchildren; but his son gets very little under the will. The Emperor Frederick, therefore, has practically nothing at his disposal to leave by will, except about £120,000 which he gets from his father's estates.

I hear that a large house in an unexceptional quarter has been taken for the season by a syndicate, consisting of a woman of title, a man of fashion, and a wine merchant. These enterprising people will let the house to any wealthy mob who desires to give a ball, and it can be hired at an inclusive charge, which will not only cover rent, light, servants, decorations, and music, but also smart dancing men (provided by the man of fashion), eligible females (provided by the woman of title), and a first-rate supper and wines (provided by the wine merchant). I am told that four balls have actually been arranged for, one of which is to be given by a provincial politician of some notoriety.

PRIMROSE DAY—19TH APRIL.

Give me a single primrose
To place upon my breast;
The flower of one departed,
A statesman now at rest.

The flower that brings to memory
A great and honoured name,
Who brought us "Peace with Honour,"
And gained a lasting fame.

Only a simple primrose,
A simple flower of spring;
By Beaconsfield worn proudly,
I love to dearly cling.

And through this mighty empire
By thousands near and far,
For him is worn a primrose,
Once England's guiding star.

A man who served most truly,
His country, Queen, and God!
And left in time's sands footprints
Of paths he nobly trod.

Peace to the immortal statesman,
Whose fame will ne'er decay!
And ever to his memory
We'll keep the Primrose Day.

FRANK W. SMITH.

In opening the synod of the Church of Ireland the Lord Primate expressed abhorrence of the wicked conspiracy against life, property, and law which had blackened Ireland's once fair fame, but remarked that thanks to the vigorous action of the present Government, the reign of law and order had set in and that the union of Ireland with Great Britain had been secured beyond the power of professional agitators to shake or ambitious placemen to undermine.

HIS MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS has granted the proprietor of Borden's GOLD MEDAL BAKING POWDER the privilege of purveyor to Her Majesty's Court, with permission to bear the Royal arms of the Netherlands. (Adv.)

THE NURSERYMAN AND HIS SWEETHEART.

At the Marlborough-street Police Court Samuel Charles Churchill, nurseryman, of The Vinery, Church-street, Middlesex, was summoned by Wilhelmina Harriet Wicks, now staying at 3, Darby-street, Mayfair, to show cause why he should not contribute to the support of her illegitimate child, he being the putative father thereof.

—Mr. Edgell, who appeared in support of the summons, said that the complainant was a young unmarried woman, who, until a short time ago, resided with her mother at Ashbourne. Defendant was a widower, and a nurseryman in the same parish. He had two children, aged about 15 and 17. The parties had known each other since childhood, and the intimacy required two or three years ago in a proposal of marriage. The defendant's mother and the family accepted him as the intended husband, and preparations were made for the event. The marriage, however, was postponed from time to time, with a view, as the defendant said, of making their home more comfortable than his cottage then was, and during the period he was waiting the plaintiff found herself in the family way. In October last, defendant, in a scandal that would arise in the village, defendant sent her to Wales and maintained her there at his own expense. He paid the surgeon's fees, advertised for a home for the child in the London newspapers, and met her on her return to town. He accompanied her and the child in a cab to a home that he had found for it, and they left it there, and then in a few days he for the first time told her that he was not the father, and should have nothing more to do with her and her offspring.—The plaintiff, a fashionably-dressed young woman, said that she was a single woman, and her age 24. Her home hitherto had been at Ashbourne, Middlesex. She kept a school, and resided with her mother. On October 30th last she was delivered of a male child at Monmouth, Wales. The defendant was the father of the infant.—Why did you go away? Because he wished me to. He did not like my position to become known in our village.—Where did you go? First to a village in Gloucestershire, but not being comfortable he told me to move to Monmouth. He paid every penny of the expense, occupied lodgings until December 16th. Did he ask you about any of the correspondence he had had with you? He desired me to destroy all his letters, and I carried out his wish.—Did you believe at that time that the marriage would take place? Certainly. He gave me the money for the maintenance of the child, and I paid it away.—Did he persuade you to adopt another name? Yes, I was known as Mrs. Bowen. It was a name that I selected myself. All the cheques were sent to me in the name of Mrs. H. Bowen. The child was registered in the name of your son.—When did the defendant since your return? Yes, he has visited at my home. Once he told me that his nursery was worth about £3,000. He holds a very good position in the village. I can swear that the defendant is the only man with whom I have ever been intimate.—On being cross-examined, the complainant said that she used to visit at his cottage, where his mother and children lived. It was a four-roomed affair, not suitable for a home for her, and she objected to it. She was a hut, in fact, and a wash-house. She was a dance on the 1st of February 1887, and recognised a ticket produced by the counsel, read a letter which she stated that he was glad she enjoyed herself at the ball, and he wished he could have done the same, but he was upset. It was very well telling him that walking up and down the hills brought on a premature confinement. He had supported her on the strength of the tales she had told him, but he had ascertained all about it. He had got the date of the dance, and the circumstances connected with it. The defendant, on being called into the witness-box to give evidence on his own behalf, said that he was a small nurseryman—growing only strawberries and grapes. He had been a widower for eight or nine years. One of his daughters was a pupil of the complainant's for about twelve months. He was engaged to be married to the complainant. On February 21st, 1887, he took her to a ball at the Town Hall, Staines. They went home together in a cab, and that was the first time they parted. He did not agree to pay anything for the support of the child. He might have paid 7s. 6d. a week for the month, but the complainant paid the rest with her own money. Though he was only a small nurseryman he could not say the amount at which he was assessed. His property was mortgaged, and he was living in the cottage on about £1 a week.—Mr. Newton ultimately made an order for the payment of 5s. until the child was 14 years old, together with 42s. 8d. costs.

FLOWER MAKERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE."
Sir,—May I trespass on your kindness for a small space in your valuable paper for a few lines on the report Mr. Redgrave has just published on flower-makers? I cannot think he speaks from personal experience. In the first place, I beg to say that I have been a worker for over twenty years, and have brought up a family in comfort and respectability, and not only I, but a very great many others, have done the same; therefore the wage must have been more than 1s. per week, or I could not have done that; and as to their being sisters and dirty, and as to the firm I now work for, where there are over two hundred employees, are well dressed, not only very well, but good under-clothing, made by themselves in the slack time of material procured in the busy season. If he would take the trouble to look over our books he would see that a great many earn over 20s. per week in the busy time, and less than 8s. or 10s. in the slack. He also states he would be sorry to narrate what they do in times of depression. I have not the time to do this, but I have no doubt that those people cheerfully put up with privations—those who have no power to keep them—but I do not think they have ever done aught to cause a blush. Of course, there are a few who would be bad under any circumstances, and quite as many in the upper as the lower classes; but I do not think it just to class all as bad, and if the inspector—general gives such a report, is it likely to raise the standard of workers, for no respectable parent would put a child to it after reading his report? regards the making he is wrong. He says we do not copy from firm brings very choice flowers from his greenhouses, and they are copied satisfactorily. This is not an occasional, but an almost daily occurrence. Then, as regards the shading of flowers, no tin plates are used; they are shaded with soft camel-hair brushes, and sometimes it is necessary to put two or three shades of colour on each petal; therefore, so far from very young girls being employed in the shading-room, it requires experienced hands, who earn from 15s. to 21s. per week; and if young girls are taken as learners at six months, according to their aptitude. They must come clean, as our work could not be made with dirty or coarse hands, as a great deal of it requires very delicate touching or it would be spoiled. Our shades all wear neat, clean, large white holland aprons that cover their dresses, and then they are supplied with towels, fastened at the side of each one, to wipe their fingers on, to prevent their being daubed with the colours. And then the meals are not taken in the work-rooms. We have a large dining-room, with large table, clean and neat, and they go in parties to dinner and tea, therefore they are not quite so uncivilised as Mr. Redgrave seems to think. Possibly they might not understand the use of table napkins and finger glasses, but do not class us as cannibals.—Yours, &c.,

M. A. TEMPLE.

RHEUMATISM cured by COLMAN'S Concentrated MUSTARD OIL. Sold by all Grocers and Chemists, at 1s. per bottle. (Adv.)

POLITICAL SPEECHES.

The Marquis of Salisbury in North Wales.

There was a great political demonstration at Carnarvon on Tuesday in connection with the visit of the Marquis of Salisbury, and a conference of delegates of the Welsh Division of the National Union of Conservative Associations was held in the afternoon, at which resolutions were passed expressing satisfaction at the introduction of the Tithes Bill as likely to promote the Conservative cause in Wales, approving of the provisions of the Local Government Bill, and condemning any attempt to introduce Irish measures of agitation in the principality.—In the evening there was a great gathering in the pavilion, which is capable of seating 10,000 persons, but the demand for admission was so great that the place was densely crowded at least an hour before the time for commencing the proceedings. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn presided, and on the platform were a large number of noblemen and gentlemen, including several local members of Parliament. The appearance of the noble marquis was the signal for enthusiastic cheering and waving of hats and handkerchiefs, and a hearty welcome having been accorded to the distinguished visitor by the chairman, a vote of confidence in her Majesty's Government was passed by Lord Pembroke, the Marquis of Salisbury, in reply having alluded to the loss which Europe had sustained by the death of the German Emperor, and expressed a hope that the life of his successor might be spared, as it was a pledge for the maintenance of peace, the noble marquis reiterated that all the rulers in Europe were struggling hard to preserve peace, and said he believed that for the present there was every hope of their doing it with success. He denied that the Local Government Bill was a radical or revolutionary measure, but agreed that it would not be wise to give the county councils unlimited power to mortgage the industry of their successors. As to Sunday closing, he preferred to leave each locality to decide for itself whether public-houses should be closed or not, and he warned the licensed victuallers who were resisting this proposal that the alternative might be that they would be closed in England by Act of Parliament, as had been done in Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. The tithes question, he thought, might be settled by the Government, and he said that he would support the Government in Ireland, he said that to secure prosperity and loyalty they must restore the reign of order, justice, and law. Much might be done by facilitating useful public works, affording opportunities for emigration, and encouraging the growth of new industries. He deprecated the cry of nationality which had been raised in Wales as well as in Ireland, and urged that the people of these kingdoms should rather be taught that their inevitable and indissoluble fate was to be united to face the problems and difficulties which are looming in the future.—When the Prime Minister left the building he and his party proceeded through the main thoroughfares of Carnarvon, and were preceded by a torchlight procession of most imposing dimensions, the torch-bearers being working men connected with Conservative organisations. The procession escorted his lordship part of the way to Vaynol Park, where the Prime Minister was the guest of Mr. Asaphon Smith.

Banquet to Mr. Balfour.

Mr. Balfour was on Wednesday evening entertained at a banquet at St. James's Hall, over which Lord Dartmouth presided, there being nearly eight hundred noblemen and gentlemen present. Replying to the toast of his health, the Chief Secretary said the state of Ireland was now much better than a year or two ago, and the credit for this was due far more to the Unionist party, who had supported Ministers, than to the Government, who owed a profound debt of gratitude to Lord Hartington, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. Bright. Having characterised Mr. Wilfrid Blunt's story as an imaginative fable, he said he should regret the permanent absence of any of the leading Parliaments from the House of Commons. He did not reproach Mr. Gladstone, but thought his opinions regarding Home Rule, but thought the circumstances imposed upon him some obligations of modesty and reticence. The firm of Parnell and Gladstone, he said, had been doing an active business for the last few months, but not a profitable one, and there were already signs of a dissolution of partnership, though the whole Gladstonian party had that day voted for a measure of undisguised spoliation. Mr. Balfour concluded by saying the Government were engaged in laying deep the foundations of a future edifice of national unity.

Mr. Gladstone Satisfied.

Mr. Gladstone, speaking at a dinner given to himself, Sir William Harcourt, and Sir George Trevelyan at the National Liberal Club on Wednesday evening, said the Liberal party, though maimed, had won more victories in the polls during the past fifteen months than they had known to have been gained before by a party in a minority. As to the two great measures which the Government had submitted to the House this session, the large and complicated proposals in the Local Government Bill would require to be thoroughly sifted. The Budget did not improve upon acquaintance. It was too much in the interests of property, and especially of property in land, and too little in the interests of labour and of the general consumer. With respect to Ireland, the right hon. gentleman said that the Conservative candidates pledged themselves to meet the demands of Ireland for local institutions, and now every such pledge had been shattered into fragments. But he took comfort in the fact that the people of England generally were rapidly forgetting all their unworthy prejudices against the Irish.

Mr. Chamberlain.

Mr. Chamberlain was on Monday night entertained at dinner at the Devonshire Club, and said that every Englishman worthy of the name sympathised with the objects of his recent mission, approved of such success as had been obtained, and was eager for a settlement of all differences between the United States and ourselves.

Lord R. Churchill.

Lord R. Churchill, addressing a Conservative meeting in Birmingham, said that the political calm indicated a golden age of Parliamentary procedure and manners, and ascribed it to the fact that we had a strong Government, in the unique position of being supported by the Liberal Unionists and by Tories representing the democracy who would not tolerate any tendency to inaction or reaction. He attributed the present Parliamentary attitude of the Opposition, which so greatly facilitated public business, to the absence of any ground of objection to the Government policy. He held that this British session, and justice in making this a British session, and that no session would probably be devoted to the three Irish problems—the land, local government, and education.

THE GARDEN.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR "THE PEOPLE")
Sowing Biennial Flowers.

Canterbury bells are among the most beautiful of summer border flowers. Sow the seeds in nursery bed cover lightly, and prick off into a nursery bed four inches apart, when large enough, and in autumn transplant to their blooming quarters. There is much variety in colour among them. This class of flowers have been much improved of late years. Hollyhocks may be sown now in shallow drills one foot apart, and transplanted when large enough in rows eight inches apart, to be finally set out where intended to flower in the March following. Hollyhocks are among the most stately of border flowers. Sometimes the seeds are sown under glass in heat, but this is a mistake. Hardy plants in heat tend to weaken the constitution of the plants, and to this cause may be attributed, at least in part, their often un-

satisfactory condition. The hollyhock ought to find a place in every garden, and when cultivators come back again to the rational system of treatment adopted by our fathers in the past the plant will again flourish. Among other biennials which should be sown now are sweet-williams, spotted foxgloves, and antirrhinums.

Grafting Fruit Trees.

The season is backward, and the grafting season is in consequence late, but as soon as the sap is fairly on the move and the buds are starting, head down the stocks and put in the grafts. To the uninitiated grafting seems a mysterious business, but there is no mystery about it, and any one with a sharp knife can graft a tree, fruiting or otherwise, after a little practice, and one practical lesson is better than any amount of writing. But as I cannot give my readers a practical demonstration of the simplicity of the operation, I will endeavour to state the matter as plainly and as briefly as possible. There are two modes of grafting largely practised in this country; one is called whip grafting, and is chiefly applied to young trees with stems not thicker than one's thumb. In all cases the stock must be in advance of the scion or graft, and for this reason the grafts are taken off the parent trees in winter, and the buds are dormant, and are laid in under a north wall or in some cool position. By having the stock in advance of the scion the cut surface of the latter comes into contact with a full stream of life in the rapidly rising sap, and the union is cemented almost immediately. I have said the knife must be sharp, as bruised tissues are a long time healing. Cut off the head of the stock with just a little slant to one side. Cut a slice off the lowest side, from two to three inches in length, slanting upwards from the bottom of the cut to the top in a regular manner, leaving a smooth face. Now take the scion, which should be about 5in. or 6in. long, having about two or three buds. Cut a slice off one side corresponding to the cut surface of the stock, and fit the two together so that the two barks on at least one side are brought into contact, and then bind them firmly together and apply clay or grafting wax so that the air is effectually kept out of the wounds. If the clay should crack at any time the cracks must be immediately filled up with the same material. The other mode of grafting is called flange grafting, and is even simpler than the one just described. It is chiefly applied to oldish trees where the kind of fruit is inferior and it is desired to put a better kind on the roots. The branches are sawn a foot or more from the trunk, according to circumstances. The wounds are smoothed with a sharp knife and the grafts are inserted round the sides of each stump or amputated branch in the following manner:—The bark at the upper end of the stump is removed in two or more places, according to the size of the stump, by drawing up the point of the knife with sufficient force to cut through the bark without wounding the wood. A bone skewer (or a pointed bit of hard wood will do) is inserted in the top and thrust down just beneath the bark in contact with the cambium or inner bark. The scions are cut to a flat surface on one side, the other remaining round, with the outer bark still skinned off with a sharp knife, and are struck firmly into the opening beneath the bark of the stump, being guided by the bone skewer. The grafts are then bound and clayed to keep out the air. It takes much less time to do it than it does to write about it.

Annual Flowers for Summer Blooming.

may still be sown. Those who like mixture may buy mixed packets of flower seeds and sow them thinly and lightly rake the surface over. The mixed packets of hardy annuals are very nice for sowing in shrubbery borders or anywhere on vacant spots. To ensure success

The Plants Must be Thinned.

so that each can strike out and show its true character. The weediness of annuals is so common in some gardens, and is entirely owing to overcrowding. The thinning should be done as soon as the plants are large enough to take hold of. Very often the thinnings may be planted elsewhere. This work is best done after a shower, as then the plants will draw with less injury. If the weather should be dry, the patches or beds of seedlings might be watered an hour or two before thinning them.

Seeds to be Sown Now in Vegetable Gardens.

Sow a pinch of red celery under a hand-light for late use. Every kind of vegetable for which there is a demand, may be sown now. These will in most places include peas, broad beans, carrots, beet, spinach, lettuce, radishes, mustard and cress, vegetable marrow, ridge cucumbers, and all kinds of winter greens, and cauliflowers for summer and autumn use.

Veitch's Autumn Giant Cauliflower and the self-protecting broccoli sent out by the same firm, are valuable autumn and early winter vegetables. Sow now, and plant out with large enough. Prick out Brussels sprouts down last month in the frame as soon as they are large enough.

Window Plants.

Giving stimulants to the plants showing blossom will add strength, colour, and substance to the flowers. There is less loss when it can be sprinkled over the surface of the soil, the latter being slightly stirred up and then watered in. Fertilisers and such will be specially grateful for a little help in this way.

Propagating the Indiarubber.

This is easily done by removing a leaf with a knife, making an incision on the side of the branch, cutting upwards, and tying a good handful of moss over the wound and keeping the moss moist by damping it daily.

ROSES! ROSES! ROSES!!!

ROSES.—Choice named, best Exhibition Hybrid Perpetual Roses in cultivation for Beds or Borders. 12 roses, 12 inches high, suitable for potting in 7in. pots, 12 distinct Moss Roses, 6s.; 12 Crimson and Pink China, almost always in flower, 6s. All carriage free. Best Nurseries, Trees, etc., LILIAN & SONS, 24, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.4.

NEW SEEDS! RELIABLE SEEDS!

QUALITY, QUANTITY, VARIETY, CHEAPNESS. 16 (acknowledged world double), viz.: Brocoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbages, Celery, Carrots, Spinach, Parsnips, Turnips, Lettuce, Scotch Kale, Savoy, Endive, Onions, Vegetable Marrow, Hardy Cucumbers, and a Packet of VEITCH'S AUTUMN CAULIFLOWER.

Or post free for 1s. 2d. from JOHN L. WATSON, Manager, 20 VARIETIES OF FLOWER SEEDS in separate packets, with directions for growing, comprise THE "PLAN" AND BULB COMPANY'S SHILLING COLLECTION. No. 1, including Double Balm, Indian Pink, Carnations, Aster, Phlox Drummondii, Sweet Pea, Ten Week Glory, Godolite, Mignonette, &c.

THOUSANDS SOLD ANNUALLY. And give general satisfaction. Customers say it is a GOOD SHILLING'S WORTH. Or post free, 1s. 2d. from JOHN L. WATSON, 20 VARIETIES OF FLOWER SEEDS in separate packets, with directions for growing, comprise THE "PLAN" AND BULB COMPANY'S SHILLING COLLECTION. No. 1, including Double Balm, Indian Pink, Carnations, Aster, Phlox Drummondii, Sweet Pea, Ten Week Glory, Godolite, Mignonette, &c.

THE PEOPLE'S "WONDERFUL" COLLECTION OF VEGETABLE SEEDS. For contents, see "The People" of March 15th. P. O. W. R. S. D. S.

THE 1s. COLLECTION contains 15 varieties of Hardy Annuals, and is well adapted for small gardens or for Cottagers. THE 2s. COLLECTION contains 24 large packets of Choice Hardy Annuals, sufficient for a good-sized garden, and forms an acceptable present.

THE 3s. COLLECTION contains 12 large packets of Choice Hardy Annuals, specially selected, for a medium-sized garden. Collection of 12 Hardy Annuals in 7in. pots, 6s. 6d. Collection of 12 Hardy Annuals in 7in. pots, 6s. 6d. Collection of 12 Hardy Annuals in 7in. pots, 6s. 6d.

GLADIOLUS BRENCHLEYENSIS, Splendid Seedling. LILIAN & SONS, 24, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.4. MUSHROOM SPAN, "A Specialty." Finest Millitack, 6d. per Brick, 6s. 6d. per Barrel. The "Wonderful" Mignonette Lawn Seeds for Town Gardens, 1s. per Packet, 12s. per Barrel. Best Nurseries, Trees, etc., LILIAN & SONS, 24, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.4.

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OUR OMNIBUS.

THE POLITICIAN.

[The driver of this vehicle has much pleasure in introducing a new passenger to his "regulars." They will find Mr. Jack Allround a pleasant and useful companion, his mind being well stored with scraps of out-of-the-way information on household and other domestic matters. He desires me to say on his behalf that he will be always most willing to answer any questions within the compass of his knowledge.]

Canada is resolved, I am glad to see, that she will not do anything to loosen the ties uniting her to England. This is the meaning of the refusal of the Dominion Parliament, by a majority of nearly two to one, to benefit American trade at the expense of British. Had the Canadians adopted that proposal, they would have placed themselves in direct antagonism to the interests of the country on a matter of vital importance, thus paving the way for separation. For any English colony to heavily tax British goods while admitting free access to some foreign country, would be a state of things too intolerable to last.

The question as to the rate of wages to be paid by Government contractors is by no means to be dealt with offhand, as some trade unions seem to desire. Why should not the nation have the same liberty to get its work done on the lowest possible terms as private persons enjoy? When a firm gives a job to a contractor, no inquiry is made as to what rate of wages he proposes to pay his hands; that is his own business. Then, why should the State be called upon to stipulate in its contracts for work that none but Englishmen are to be employed, and that the wage rate shall never fall below the "society" standard? To do that would tax the many for the advantage of the few, a practice opposed to all rational conceptions of justice.

The quarrel between the United States and Morocco is ended, I am glad to say, without a breach of the peace. It would have been beneath Brother Jonathan's dignity to have made war against such a puny power. But before long some other country will be pretty sure to do so. Morocco is a Naboth's vineyard to both Spain and France, and one or the other would have annexed it years ago but for fearing complications with its neighbour. Under good government the country might be made as prosperous as Egypt now is.

What a miserable fizzle were the National League demonstrations in Ireland last Sunday! Their avowed object was to prove that the league still exercised paramount power in certain districts where Mr. Balfour declares its action is paralysed. But so far from demonstrating the vitality of the organisation, the meetings afforded the fullest justification for Mr. Balfour's contention. He ought certainly to feel very grateful to Mr. Healy and the other firebrand demagogues for their kindly co-operation in showing the supremacy of the law.

Prince Bismarck has achieved victory over three Victorias; such is the joke at Berlin. It means that the Chancellor had arrayed against him, on the Battenberg marriage question, Queen Victoria, her daughter, the Empress Victoria, and her granddaughter, Princess Victoria, and that he, nevertheless, gained his object. That is only true to a certain extent. He wanted the match broken off permanently, but he has merely obtained its postponement until circumstances are more propitious. The love-lorn couple may make up their minds, I fancy, to a very prolonged engagement if the fixing of the wedding-day depends upon Prince Bismarck.

The sudden rise of the Battenberg family to a position of European consequence shows that pluck, smartness, audacity, ambition, and good looks still carry the day. With one member married to a daughter of England's great Queen, and another betrothed to a daughter of the German Emperor, the Battenbergs are looking up in the world, and if they could only make their peace with the Czar there is no saying where their promotion would stop. It seems only the other day that one heard these pushing princes spoken of as hard-up adventurers, tramping about the world in quest of unconsidered trifles.

Although the Northumberland miners have decided, by a somewhat narrow majority, to continue the payment of Parliamentary salaries to Messrs. Burt and Fenwick, I doubt whether this system of subsidising representatives will continue very long. It places both parties in an altogether false position, converting members of Parliament into paid delegates, and making them the servants of those who can stop their salaries at any moment. Then, too, when hard times come, it seems unfair to the men that the sufferings which pinch their families so sorely should not touch the gentlemen whom they are supporting in luxury out of their scanty means. It is a vicious system, and the sooner it is ended the better.

WILLIAM OF CLOUDESLEE.

We started on Tuesday at Epsom with the Trial Plate, in which St. Dominic was made favourite, with Mara second. Nutshell, the only other runner, won very easily.

Sigbert and Leap Year, first and second favourites in a field of six, ran a dead heat for the Westminster Stakes. I am afraid that Sigbert has been greatly overrated.

Bartizan, favourite for the Great Surrey Handicap, looked well on paper, but he has so often run soft that many who would otherwise have been on him thought of previous disappointments, and looked elsewhere for the winner. Bartizan was always well placed, and won easily.

Backers of the Hampton-Quiver filly and Scylla for the Holmwood Year-Old Stakes were very unlucky. Scylla bolted directly after the start, and the Quiver filly was left. Heptarchy, well backed at the finish, won.

Only seven turned out for the Great Metropolitan Stakes. Taspheerne, Chippeway, The Cob, and St. Helen were all well backed. Renny was right out in the cold. In the race Taspheerne was always in front, and won somewhat easily from The Cob and Renny. Had Renny been differently ridden he would have nearly won. St. Helen went wrong in running. Vanda, the Caulfield-Baroness colt, who ran indifferently at Northampton when beaten by Anodyne, carried off the Banstead Plate from a very weak field.

There was plenty of good money behind Devilhood for the Prince of Wales's Stakes. In running Redowa looked all over a winner, but Devilhood put a different complexion on the contest at the distance, and landed easily from Redowa, with The Tyke, the favourite, third.

On Wednesday we opened with the Manor Plate, with eight runners. Towards the finish Cardinal Wolsey settled down a good second favourite, and getting off well won with something to spare.

Mallow, unplaced in the Stamford Plate, was second best to Good Night, the winner. The top weight showed a very bold front till well within the distance, but was not persevered with when Good Night came out.

The story of the City and Suburban may be very soon told. After several breaks away a pretty good start was effected. The race was over at Tottenham Corner, where Oliver Twist, Woodland, Abu Klea, and Fullerton were going well, but the last named took the best of the lot. When it came to racing Fullerton quickly put the issue beyond doubt. Woodland did not stay home, and

was beaten by Abu Klea, who, as I said last week, was the best outsider.

During the last few days I have received several letters from subscribers, who tell me that they do not get tips in the country edition of the People. I have tried to do what I can for such friends, who I must remind that tipping is a business involving great trouble and requiring much care. So many names have to be considered in making up your mind what to do for the best. I have left the selections for Sunday's issue so as to get the benefit of Saturday's market. For the future I will give the best tips I can on big races only in the country edition for the benefit of subscribers who only see that edition. At the same time let me very strongly recommend them to get Sunday's paper, which gives the latest news. I am exceedingly sorry that country friends should not have thought it worth their while to order last Sunday's edition, because I think that my summing up might have done them good, since in my four against the field were Fullerton and Abu Klea.

After the City and Suburban the stewards decided to hold an inquiry into Merry Hampton's running in the City and Suburban. The horse certainly did run very badly indeed.

The Kingswood Stakes went to Chelwood, who beat eight opponents with Westbury, the favourite, second. Chelwood is owned by Mr. Dashwood, of Lewes, and trained privately. Many of us were surprised to find Lord Londonderry's filly by Springfield—Grisseldi win the Hyde Park Plate. The fact was that somehow we failed to mark her as a runner. She was not coloured on the card. Perhaps that led to the omission. P. and O. did not forget to win the Walton Stakes, although one of the last off.

In the Walter Plate only Charleston and Lady Onslow started. Odds of 5 to 2 were laid on the former, who was never really safe till half way within the distance.

George Perkins, who has been in Australia for some twelve months, has determined to challenge Peter Kemp to a match. Perkins could not persuade either Neil Matterson or Hearn, the New Zealand champion, to make a match.

John L. Sullivan's departure for America was fixed for Thursday. His agents on the other side of the Atlantic have already issued a challenge for him to fight any one under the Marquis of Queensberry's rules.

Jack Ashton wants to fight Jake Kilrain in any style, a rather large undertaking for Ashton, who is nothing like Kilrain's equal in weight or strength.

For the present we have quite enough in the boxing way near at hand. Mr. Ben Hyatt's tournament at the Islington Agricultural Hall has been a grand success. On Monday, in the set competition, Ted Jones of Hackney, beat H. Saphir of Camp, the coming man, defeated Con Donovan; Arthur Wilkinson gained a victory over Bill Goode, of Battersea, and upset a great favourite. Goode was not in his best form.

In the catch weights Jack Partridge, St. Luke's, beat R. Mottram, Nottingham; and Bill Goode, Shadwell, won when meeting Parish, Spitalfields. Ted Burchell knocked out Sam Breeze, of Birmingham, in less than three minutes; and Mike Jennett, of Leicester, who recently challenged Tom Lees, the Australian, just beat J. Ensell, of Birmingham.

On Tuesday, W. Baxter, Shoreditch, and F. Fox, Marylebone, were the first to spar in the set 10lb. competition. Baxter won. Fred Johnson, Hackney, and Tom Euston had a very warm turn, in which Johnson gained the verdict. Pudney Sullivan, Lambeth, beat W. Bell, Hoxton; and the veteran Jim Laxton, of Hoxton, outgeneraled J. Neale. For the 12lb. competition the winners were George Wilson, Leicester, who beat Jim Pickett, of Hackney, and Chink Ghook, Shoreditch, beat Bill Cheese, of Shoreditch. D. Leary beat J. Donoghue.

Wednesday's sport began with the set 6lb. competition. Harry Mead, St. Luke's, beat Ted Hammen, Woolwich. Dido Hopwood, Bethnal Green, won against J. Dennis, Clerkenwell. Sam Baxter, Shoreditch, was weak, and could not beat Evan Davies, of Forest Gate, although the decision was given against Davies. T. Mack, Marylebone, and W. Whalley, Walworth, performed unevenly. In the first half Whalley had all the best of the deal. Mack scored much the faster in the second part, and won. Eight sparred in the 10lb. 2lb. competition. J. Cashley, of Leeds, beat Patsy Burke, Poplar; W. Corcoran, St. Luke's, beat Con Griffiths, Walworth; E. White, Bloomsbury, very nearly knocked Pat Condon, Shoreditch, right out, and at the finish won easily; Jim Kendrick, Lambeth, beat Jack Gleeson, Fulham.

OLD IZAAK.

The agitation which took place last year with the view of altering the close time for fishing, as regulated by the Municipalities, seems to have died out, but should it again be revived, I think that one of the facts which should be taken into consideration is, that the law, as it at present stands, is very hard upon the working classes, who cannot afford a trip to the Norfolk Broads or indulge in the luxury of trout fishing. Indeed, such an eminent authority as the late Mr. Frank Buckland was of opinion that the probable advantages of a close time for rod fishing were not of sufficient importance to render it necessary to prohibit such sport, during which many were compelled to take their only holiday. Of far greater importance to the river is it to have it properly preserved. The netmen do a great deal more damage than the anglers of London would if they fished it all the year round. I am not prepared to entirely advocate this being allowed, but the present law is undoubtedly far too severe.

The following prizes, to be competed for at the Anglers' tournament, June 9th, has already been offered:—Richmond Piscatorial Society, £10 10s.; T. Sprackley, Esq., £5 5s.; proprietors of the Field, £5 5s.; proprietors of the Fishing Gazette, £5 5s.; F. Mead, Esq., £2 2s.; D. Slater, Esq., £2 2s.; Messrs. Lines, Cliff, Page, and Sergenson, £1 1s. each; Liverpool Angling Association, £1 1s.; Mr. R. Humphries, a pair of silver-chased beakers; Messrs. Wells, of Nottingham, a centre-pin reel and line; Messrs. Anderson and Co., a pair of Norse semi-waders; and Messrs. T. Grant and Son, one dozen tonic liquors, while Mr. Ramsbottom, of Manchester, and Major Trabern promise prizes. This is a very good commencement, but I should advise anglers who think of competing to fortify such skill as they may possess in throwing a bait with a little practice beforehand, or clubs to arrange bait-casting competitions among their members in the same way as the Richmond men are doing.

One of the greatest difficulties with which the officers and committee of an angling club have to contend is the irregularity with which members attend the weekly meetings. It is owing, I think, to the remarkable want of punctuality that I have noticed on many occasions there always is delay in commencing business. If eight o'clock is fixed, the members should know that the chair will be taken at that time and the minutes read, and the result would be an increased attendance. There is nothing more annoying to an active man than to be kept waiting for something to turn up, "if only for an hour," yet the lax system which allows of the possibility of having to go through such an experience, characterises now almost every meeting of anglers.

When the 16th of June comes, and the Thames angler can joyfully cry, "It is our opening day," he might so far as to fare worse than if he tried

that portion of the Thames between Chertsey Bridge and Shepperton Lock. There is very good roach fishing from a punt or from the bank special for about thirty yards from Dockett Point. This swim is, I expect, known to a good many of my readers. There is some splendid barbel fishing to be had, but in order to get them in any quantity a swim should be well baited with worms for two or three days beforehand, when the bream may also be found to be "well on." But at any time when fishing for roach the throwing out of a fine gut reed, bottom baited with the tail of a lob, would probably be attended with results which would compensate for the trouble.

Another court was taken on the 4th inst. at Hampton Court. It was caught by the hind leg in one of the traps provided by the T.A.P.S., and exhibited alive at the Castle Hotel. Its estimated weight was 18lbs.

Mr. Hase kindly sends me the following interesting information:—

In your notes last week you described the Hampshire Avon as one of the best rivers in England. I am a fisherman, and I have frequently been asked what rivers in England are most famed for the quality and beauty of the roach indigenous to their waters. For weight and size there are no rivers in the kingdom possibly that can beat the Hampshire Avon and the Dorset Stour. For beauty of shape and colouring I should emphatically give the palm to the Colne. In two days of Whitehead week, 1885, the Anglers did not take a single salmon weighing 100lb.; largest fish 44lb.

I am much obliged to "Old Bob" for the following:—

I see in your columns of Sunday last a reference made to the healing powers of tench. Permit me to give you my opinion. Opposite Islington Church, with its quaint old tower, back-water, on the New Gardens side of the river, which at one time, if not now, contained some very fine tench. I have noticed these fish are exceedingly slimy, owing, no doubt, to their muddy propensities, and it is very probable that fish benefit by rubbing their scales against the sides of the tench, the slime forming a protection to the scales.

The tench is comparatively a rare fish, and very few anglers can boast of having caught many. It is more generally found in ponds than in rivers, and may be looked upon as a curiosity if taken from the Thames, although the year before last an angler was lucky enough to take some in a Twickenham Deep. They are often found where their existence is least suspected, and if any of my readers are ever fishing a pond in which weeds are flourishing, and there is a muddy bottom, I should advise them to try a well-soured branding, which is the best bait for tench. They are, however, almost as wary a fish as the carp, and the finest tackle must be used and the greatest care exercised, as when fishing for "the fresh water fish."

In reply to "Cantlowes," the competitions at the tournament will probably be of two classes, one for professional fishermen, i.e., most of whom make their living by fishing, or by selling others to fish, such as gutmen, &c., and amateur anglers; and the latter class will be open to all who choose to compete. Of course a small entrance fee will be charged. If fine it will certainly be a most enjoyable and interesting day. For further information I must refer my correspondent to the honorary secretary, Mr. H. Davis, 5, Matson Villas, Richmond, Surrey.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

It is not often that pet birds which have escaped voluntarily return to captivity, and I am therefore much indebted to Mr. Swann, of Gravesend, for communicating to me the details of an authentic case. Last week a redpoll of his got away, and was seen to fly across several fields, until it disappeared from view. It was, of course, given up as lost, but Mr. Swann thought he might as well hang out the cage at the usual place for the door open on the chance of its coming back for food. Nothing was seen of the bird until the next twenty-four hours, but the following day it was back again in its old home, eating with every appearance of keen hunger. I once had a ring dove that came back after being absent for about a week, but it had a wife and youngsters, whereas Mr. Swann's sensible bird was either a bachelor or a spinster.

The Viceroy, accompanied by the Maharajah of Rewah, proceeded on Tuesday on a shooting excursion. The sport was poor, only two tigers being shot. Thus runs an Indian telegram; most of us would, I fancy, regard a tiger as a very fair bag for one day's sport. But the Rewah jungles—I am sure its old home, eating with every appearance of keen hunger. I once had a ring dove that came back after being absent for about a week, but it had a wife and youngsters, whereas Mr. Swann's sensible bird was either a bachelor or a spinster.

Correspondents frequently ask me which is the best book to buy for the treatment and general management of birds, or dogs, or some other animals. H. L. D. does so this year, and in connection with a series of questions that I have answered more than once. There are many excellent works on the subject, but the best, in my opinion, is "General Management of Canaries," which can be obtained for 2s. 6d., of any bookseller.

As America is the chosen land for snake stories, so is France for toad yards. The other day, I came upon a veracious account in a Gallic newspaper of a monster toad weighing 60lb and measuring nearly a yard in girth. This awful creature croaked so loudly that the noise could be heard a mile away, resembling the distant booming of a cannon. Do I believe in this Brobdignagian reptile? No; I do not. Nature knows no limits, it is true, to her handiwork, but if any person told me that he had seen a toad the size of a lobster I should remain incredulous until afforded ocular proof.

When will the owners of pets learn that over-feeding is most mistaken kindness? A lady friend of mine has had for some time a robin which became so tame that it would hop about the table at meal times and help itself from any dish it fancied. In addition to these fugitive feasts, it had an ample supply of food in its cage. In rain did I and others warn the owner that the bird would inevitably die. With feminine firmness she adhered to her system of dietary, until one morning she found poor Robbie gone over to the majority.

There is nothing in the newspapers which so grates in my teeth as the announcements of seal slaughter. I have just read of one ship coming back with a record of 20,000 slain during the past season. And the sailors—what brutal work is it! The poor, inoffensive creatures, with their big pathetic eyes, which always seem to me as appealing to man for loving kindness, are harpooned, shot, even bludgeoned to death, young and old, male and female alike. I suppose it must be done to meet the requirements of civilised society, but it is very horrible all the same.

Owners of dogs cannot be too careful in seeing that they do not pick up any garbage in the streets. Some that are about the house can be kept alive easily enough, but if the winter be unduly prolonged, the gentle climbers starve to death. I kept two all through the winter, but one has just died, looking terribly skinny, and I fully expect the other to follow suit. If I spare, they would, no doubt, hibernate until the fly season returned, but the warmth of a fern case keeps them awake, more or less, with a consequent exhaustion of tissue.

Pretty as they are, tree frogs do not make good pets. So long as flies about the house can be kept alive easily enough, but if the winter be unduly prolonged, the gentle climbers starve to death. I kept two all through the winter, but one has just died, looking terribly skinny, and I fully expect the other to follow suit. If I spare, they would, no doubt, hibernate until the fly season returned, but the warmth of a fern case keeps them awake, more or less, with a consequent exhaustion of tissue.

I should like to have the opinion of some

experts as to whether the habitual eating of mice by dogs would be likely to produce any injurious effect. My reason for asking this question is because my Irish terrier has been very unwell lately with some internal complaint, and I am at a loss what to attribute it to, unless it be his habit of bolting the mice he catches about the house. It may be that the fur produces irritation of the mucous membrane, causing a tendency to dysentery. But cats never appear to suffer, let them eat as many mice as they please. Perhaps the coats of their stomachs may be more indurated than those of dogs. One thing is certain, that since I adopted means to prevent my terrier from indulging in mice eating, he has greatly recovered in health.

THE ACTOR.

I hear that, whatever "The Pompadour" may be historically, it is peculiarly a success. The house has been full nightly since the opening, and I am told that, at the end of the first week, the authors—who take together 10 per cent. of the gross receipts—realised nearly £600 apiece. At that rate they are likely to receive a handsome remuneration for their labour.

I was surprised not to find Miss Susie Vaughan's name in the cast of "Airy Annie" at the Strand, for she is an extremely clever comedienne. How clever she may be judged from the fact that the other night, Miss Artyoun being ill, Miss Vaughan took her part (in which Mrs. Beere is burlesqued) at a few hours' notice, and scored a very great success in it.

Mr. T. Edgar Pemberton, one of the authors of "The Loadstone," which failed to please at the Lyceum the other afternoon, is, I believe, the son of a leading doctor at Birmingham. I am reminded that he has written not only several one-act pieces—notably one in which Mr. Lionel Brough is particularly good—but a full-sized drama or two, and, in particular, "The Actor" a play in which Mr. Edward Compton has secured some fame in the provinces.

Why, when Mrs. Kendal came before the curtain at the close of the performance of "The Wife's Secret" on Monday, did she seem to be in a more or less fainting condition? The fact is put down by some to her exertions during the last act; by others to the effect of the few kisses with which the final fall of the curtain was saluted. I hope the latter solution is not correct. Mrs. Kendal ought to know by this time that every audience is likely to contain a few ill-conditioned people, whose ebullient cries should count for nothing amid the hearty applause of the great bulk of the assembly.

I think the revival of "The Wife's Secret" a mistake, but it is not a blunder which ought to be resented in the shape of hisses. It drew a crowded and distinguished gathering. Observed of all observers was Mr. Irving, who occupied a stage box along with Mr. J. M. Levy and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Lawson, and who, it was remarked, looked rather greater than when he went away. He paid great attention to the play, and chatted freely in the intervals. Below, in the stalls, was his young friend Faust (Mr. George Alexander), as well as Mr. Bancroft, with all his literary honours thick upon him, and the two authors of the most recent successes, Mr. Pinero and Mr. Burnand.

The Daily Telegraph on Tuesday spoke of Mr. Howe as the only surviving member of the original English cast of "The Wife's Secret," but the writer must have forgotten for the moment old Mrs. Keyser, who, though over 80, is not only alive, but hearty.

"Dorothy Gray" at the Princess's on Tuesday afternoon must have had peculiar piquancy for the dramatists present by reason of the fact that it was from the pen of the theatrical critic of the Times, under whose vigorous lash they had probably more than once smarted. This was Mr. Nisbet's first appearance as sole author of a drama. In "Cousin Johnny" at the Strand, he had for collaborator Mr. C. Marsham Esq.

It is a pity the rumour that Mr. W. S. Gilbert was to play Pygmalion (in his own comedy) at Liverpool has proved unfounded. It would have been worth while to have journeyed northward to witness the performance, which might very possibly have turned out good. If my memory does not deceive me, Mr. Gilbert once played Prince Florian (in his own "Broken Hearts") at the Savoy Theatre. H. J. Byron appeared in his own piece—why not Mr. Gilbert?

I shall be attracted to St. George's Hall on the afternoon of the 18th to see and hear "La Fille du Madone Angot," if only because Miss Catherine Lewis, whom I remember as being so charming in "Giroflé Girofla," is to be the Clairette of the occasion. In the evening, at a hall in Tottenham Court-road, two little plays, by Alec Nelson and Ernest Radford respectively, will be performed, presumably for the first time. Mr. Radford is a clever verse writer and a university lecturer on art subjects.

The will of the late Mr. Philip Harwood, proved the other day, naturally contained the name of his daughter, Miss Isabella Neil Harwood, to whom his property will revert at the death of her mother. I mention Miss Harwood in this column because this is the lady whose "Elinella" and "Loyal Love" were produced respectively by Miss Caroline Heath (Mrs. Wilson Barrett) and Mrs. Brown Potter (at the Gaiety).

It is not unlikely that Miss Violet Melnotte will bring out in London shortly her husband's (Mr. Frank Wynn) adaptation of the amusing French "Durand et Durand." At present the title fixed upon for the piece is "The Two Johnnies."

JACK ALLROUND.

The economies and comforts of many households suffer a great deal just because people do not know how to set about doing the simplest things for themselves. Carpets remain soiled and shabby, picture frames tarnished and spotted, no little elegancies creep into the home, while an immoderate amount of coal is consumed in the grates, or gas in the burners, or smoky oil lamps fill the house with malodorous fumes, and for dinner the dreariest routine of dishes is served up to the family.

As a "Jack of all trades," including doctor, mechanic, cook, and general family economist, with a sneaking affection for art decoration as a legitimate home comfort whenever attainable, I mean to offer hints, and I shall look out for, and be very pleased to get, suggestions from any one who has practical experience in household matters, with a view to helping the inexperienced.

In how many households do you get a tolerably good cup of tea? I don't know how they manage it, but the decoction most commonly presented to us as tea strikes upon my palate with an effect that might reasonably be expected, I imagine, from an infusion of badly saved hay, with a few leaves of some bitter herb mixed through it. Yet to make good tea and preserve the true flavour is an easy thing to do, only requiring a small amount of intelligence in the carrying out of the simple details.

Whether you use silver or earthenware—the latter is incomparably the better—the teapot should first be thoroughly heated with boiling water. When that is poured off, at once put in the tea and fill up the pot with boiling water—not water that has boiled, but water that is boiling. Let it stand for from five to ten minutes. Some connoisseurs say five minutes should be the limit, but I don't agree with them. A fatal error is the system often adopted of putting in only a little water and letting it "brew" before filling up the teapot. This may produce a more powerful liquid, but it is destructive of the delicate flavour. You lose the aroma of the tea, which under such treat-

ment becomes rough or bitter in taste, while the second round of cups will be very poor indeed.

It is a mistake to suppose there is no way of cleaning fly-spotted gilt frames. If the original gilding was at all good there are several recipes that are found to answer. I shall give you two of the best and easiest of application. Mix together one pint of water, half an ounce of borax, and a quarter of an ounce of carbonate of ammonia. Before using this detergent, carefully blow off all dust from the frame or lightly dust it with a camel-hair brush. Then take the fluid, and with a camel-hair brush use it freely, going over the frame evenly in portions of about half a foot at a time, so as to keep the part being worked upon moist throughout until you pass on to the next portion. Do not touch the frame while drying, but when quite dry any places very much worn may be brushed over with shell gold, to be had at any artist's colour shop.

Or beat up three ounces of white of egg with one ounce of soda, and having blown off all dust from the frame, proceed to use this preparation with a camel-hair brush in the same manner as given in the last recipe.

A horrid amount of damage is done to clothes by the use of preparations sold as washing powders. Most, if not all of them, contain deleterious substances that burn the clothes or wear them out in half the proper time. I have seen great holes burnt in new garments sent to the wash for the first time and subjected to these so-called valuable discoveries for saving labour. Unknown to the mistress, one or other of these "bleach" stuffs is brought into use in the home laundry—smuggled in by the Belinda of the soap-suds to save herself from having to expend what she considers an undue amount of labour required by the anaided use of the orthodox soap, soda, and water. The common result, of course, in such cases is universal ruin to the family underclothing and house linen in general. A recent catastrophe of this sort that came under my notice induces me to bring forward an old-fashioned laundry help, very simple and greatly esteemed by our grandmothers. A little pipeclay dissolved in the water when washing will cleanse the dirtiest of linen with about half the labour and half the soap, and, without doing them any injury, will greatly improve the colour of the clothes.

Another grandmother's recipe in vogue many generations ago, I give with the utmost confidence. I young ladies wish to preserve their fair face and soft skin in the greatest perfection should apply fine oatmeal, either made into thin crust or a little thrown into the water whenever the face and hands are washed. Constant applications may be recommended to any one subject to skin eruptions. Simple though it be, this is the safest and one of the best cosmetics I know of.

When you are overheated dry oatmeal rubbed over the face is most cooling and refreshing, and has none of the drawbacks sometimes experienced from the sudden check of skin action caused by the use of the heated surface. If ladies knew what was good for them, I am quite certain homely oatmeal would often take the place of the costly violet and pearl powders now found on their toilet tables.

GENERAL CHATTER.

At last I begin to get some glimmering of an idea as to why Mr. Gladstone is so fond of carrying on his correspondence by post-cards. He seeks to promote the enlightenment of post-men by this means. The other day I saw one of these deserving public servants perusing the contents of a post-card with burning interest, and when he had mastered one he set to work at another. At first I thought he might be spelling out the addresses, but on passing the worthy fellow I saw that it was the other sides of the cards that engaged his attention. Memo: If you do not wish your domestic affairs to get wind, always post-cards.

Lord and Lady Hampden, who celebrate their golden wedding this week, need not despair of living to celebrate their diamond wedding. This popular peer is only in his 74th year, so that another twenty-five years of life will still leave him short of being a centenarian. There are few cases of diamond weddings on record, the most notable being that of the famous German commander, Field-marshal Von Wrangel. Of him and his wife it was wittily said that they could not have wrangled much, or they would not have lived so long in matrimonial bonds.

"The eldest son of the late Jam, who is still imprisoned, has petitioned the Government for leave for his eldest son to succeed to the throne." A Briton reading this scrap of Indian news might be puzzled to conceive why Lord Dufferin should have incarcerated a jam-pot. The term is really the title borne by the ruler of Lus Beyla, who is always spoken of as "His Highness the Jam." The present potentate does not appear to have been "real jam" as a sovereign, or he would not have got into quod.

It is asserted that Mrs. Mackay, the wife of the Californian millionaire, was induced to speculate ruinously for a rise in wheat by an intimation from General Boulanger that a great European conflict was at hand. Believing this information, the dame went for a big pile with her own money at first, but later on she appears to have influenced her plutocratic husband to embark in the venture, with very disastrous results. But Mrs. Mackay's wealth is so colossal that he could afford to drop some millions and yet remain one of the richest men in the world.

Who is the richest of all? People often ask that question, and most amusing are the guesses which result. If all the wealth of the Rothschild family belonged to one person, the amount would probably be greater than the fortune of any other individual. In the same way the Vanderbilt family have an enormous pile, estimated at £30,000,000 sterling among them, but no one member could plunk down more than, perhaps, a third of the aggregate. Mr. Jay Gould is believed to be worth about £15,000,000, but this is mainly absorbed in railway property of an enormous speculative scope. On the whole, I am inclined to place the Duke of Westminster first among inordinately rich men. It would be well for the world if other millionaires spent their money to such good purpose as he does.

The Lord Mayor appeals for British subscriptions on behalf of the sufferers by the inundations in Prussia. No doubt they are much to be pitied; but have we no distress of our own which goes unrelieved for lack of funds? There is, for instance, that grand institution, King's College Hospital. Not only are two wards closed, to the great loss of the poorer classes, but it is becoming a serious question whether the hospital can be carried on at all. The whole reserve fund has gone in payment of current expenses, and unless the public come to the front with liberal subscriptions, there will be nothing for it but to close the doors.

Come, come, General Booth, this really won't do! You pride yourself on being a highly moral person, and yet you placarded London with huge gory posters announcing an Anglo-Indian marriage at the Congress Hall, Clapham, between "Miss Booth, of England, and Fakir Singh, of India," admission five shillings. You may not have intended to deceive the public, but nineteen people out of twenty certainly believed, as I did myself, that your daughter was going to marry a "rascally Indian." It came quite as a surprise to me to learn from the account of the wedding that "Fakir Singh" was none other than our old acquaintance Tucker, formerly a member of the Indian Civil Service, and of as pure English blood as I am. Call things by their proper names for the future, gents, and you will save your spotless character from injurious aspersions.

"The Lounger's" notes will be incorporated for the future with the theatrical gossip in another column.

The East-end Sweaters.

The Tailoring Trade:

must yield to his cutting down wages when the trade is on unrighteous terms. The sweated man has but a poor margin himself. So men prolong the misery of whole body; they ought to remain workers, and keep down the number of shops, for the evils of the system are intensified by these would-be masters, because they will catch at work which has been refused by others on account of profit and will work all night to be up to time. I give examples of female laborers in the trades, their differences as a factor in the cost of the article. Few learners begin under 15 years old; they receive 1s., 1s. 6s. and 2s. a week for the first months, then 4s. to 5s. until they can go on to work. At 18 years of age those who are quick can earn 15s. a week as hand-workers, and very good workers go to 17s., the highest reached. The

Three Classes of Tailors.

17 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Trousers.

king trade is

Waistcoats.

t trade is in the
de from agents a

Fur Cape Making.

facturing of rabbit skins
insanitation, misery,

The hands are making boas of goat-skin

Boots and Shoes.

men's and children's books
as developed within these

ALL STAYED IN WHITE

Outrage, Robbery, and Murder

taxes, the peritoneum itself had been perforated, but must have been used with very great care.

An inquest was held on Saturday at the

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at Life Guards, Hyde Park 16, East Surrey, 31st, 1914.
Kington

ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY.

Sealkote; E. Lucknow; F. ...
Y. Dublin; K. ...

GARRISON ARTILLERY.

Southern Division.—1st Battery, 8
3rd, Cairo and Alexandria; 4th

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

2nd, London. 1st Company, Bermuda;
London; 4th, Gosport (Sm.); 5th, Gibraltar;
6th, Chatham (Bull); 8th, Chatham (Bull).

NAVY STATIONS FOR APRIL.

Acorn, Cape & W.C. of Africa
Active, Training Squadron

...month;

Western Morning News of Saturday
and romantic incident.

Pinlee; 6th,
10th. Porta.

Hon. Walter Sugden, of Whitworth H.

THE MORE HEARD REVEALS-

Middlesex Sessions--Appeals.

Marlborough-street.

Marylebone.

Clerkenwell.

EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF FRAUD.—Alfred Fountain, 49, described as a builder, living in Golden-square, Hampstead, was brought up on a warrant charged with having obtained sums of money, amounting to £40, by false and fraudulent pretences of and from Albert Hudson.—The prosecutor is a licensed victualler, and proprietor of the Duke's Tavern, Great Brunswick Road.

Thames.

Worship-street.

The girl told him to go away, and threaten call the park keeper again. Thereupon th

soner swore at her, and slapped her face, saying, "Because she opened her mouth so about him." She screamed, and then he said, "I'll do for you," and commenced pushing towards the water, the occurrence taking only a few yards from the edge. A Mr. T. son of Murrell-road, Hackney, attracted by the calls of the girl, went on to the prisoner.

Hammersmith.

Westminster.

Lambeth.

d. **Wandsworth.**

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE BY A GIPSY. — G

Taylor's wife, was charged with attempting to commit suicide by drinking a quantity of laudanum. George Denny sat on Padlock was with the prisoner at Kingston. She joking and laughing, and suddenly said she would take some poison. He replied, "I ain't going to do that there." She took a bottle out of her pocket and drank from it. He snatched it away and smashed it.—The Chief Clerk: Did she appear ill or did she die?—Mr. Ernest T. Smith: I added that she was married but separated from her husband.—Mr. Ernest T. Smith, a surgeon, said he was called to the prisoner, whom he found in a state of unconsciousness and suffering from an opium poison. He considered the case a serious one, and ordered removal to St. Thomas's Hospital.—Police constable Pett, who arrested the prisoner, said that she was very pale and thin, but friendly with her husband.—William Cooper, the father of the prisoner, said that she had come forward and said they had been "kerned up" about in a caravan. She lived a wretched life with her husband. Witness spoke a bit too freely to her other day, and she took herself off to bed. He was willing to take her back.—The prisoner answered to a question why she had taken so much poison, she replied through tears, "My dear Bennett took the laudanum for me for her appearance in a work, and she

MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON A MOTHER.—George

PRODIGAL, BUT NOT REPENTANT.—James Paul, a

INQUESTS.

A CHILD FATALLY SCALDED.—Mr. G. Perceval Watt held an inquiry at St. Thomas's Hospital

A POLICEMAN'S MISTAKE.

Gerty —Replying to Mr. Bridge, the witness said

could not exactly say that he saw any word strike the prisoner fall, but he could not say that they had not been told by John Cowper (to Mr. Bridge). The blow he talks of as having been struck by me was several minutes after the assault had been committed. I took assistance arrived. I got him and threw him down on the grating. That is the blow the man speaks of.—William Jenks, a bookbinder, a white Hart-street, said that he saw a man, generally well-conducted. In fact, he could speak too highly of him.—The freeman stated Sir Richard Mansion had seen the whole affair, would be able to speak to the conduct of officers.—The Constable: The freeman was there.—Mr. Bridge (to the prisoner): Do you wish to adjourn the case again in order that you may call this gentleman in? The prisoner said: Yes, if the Constable will interfere with me by my work.—Mr. Bridge (to constable): Is your face now.—The Constable: It is very sore, and I am deaf with the right ear.—Bridge: Have you inquired about the prisoner's character.—The Constable: Yes; and I cannot say anything against him.—The prisoner's employment, gave him a high character, and he was a good horse-man at Salisbury. There were eleven or

**ALLEGED BLACKMAILING BY A CITY
CONSTABLE**

NORTH-WEST LONDON HOSPITAL

CHOKED BY FALSE TEETH.
The coroner for the North-eastern Division

CHOKED BY AN ORANGE.

The Marquis of Ormonde has been selected f

the vacant ribbon in the Order of St. Patrick caused by the death of Lord Annally.

Caused by one death of 1924 mining.

Henry and Ann Bright, hon. superintendents of the No

Mr. George Turnbull, who has been for fourteen years

played in the Royal Arsenal Gun Factory at Woolwich, says: "For several years I have been afflicted with rheumatism, sciatica, and neuralgia, and have been obliged to take a number of different remedies I tried, until last May I used St. Jacobs which I applied with the most marvelous results. A consultation benighted all pain and completely cured me."

Napoleon George Waita, M.A., M.D., M.B.S.O., of All House, Quadrant-road, Canonbury, N., writes: "Although an avowed to giving any professional opinion with regard to action of any 'patent' medicines—that is a mode of composition is kept a secret—yet I have obtained a great gain from the use of St. Jacobs Oil in all cases of chronic rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, facial tic, and painful nervous affections that have come under my notice more relative of mine has suffered periodically from chronic rheumatism, and I have certainly found no external application so beneficial in this case as St. Jacobs Oil. I have, therefore, from my experience no hesitation in recommending its use as a tonic, as most beneficial in all rheumatic and neurotic affections."

Six gold medals have been awarded St. Jacobs Oil for its marvellous power to cure pain. It acts like magic. It is the only remedy when everything else has failed. It has cured people who have been lame and crippled with pain over twenty years. It cures rheumatism. It cures neuralgia. It cures headache. It cures toothache. It cures all other bodily pains. It is a stimulant. It is a tonic. It is a cure.

39, FOSTER-LANE, LONDON, E.C.
4th FLOOR THROUGHOUT GREAT BRITAIN
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THE PEOPLE'S MIXTURE.

A marriage-tax is the latest thing in the afflictions suggested for India.

A young lady at Heyworth, Illinois, has made a crazy quilt with 28,000 pieces in it.

The dervishes have attacked and pillaged the village of Daboud, fifteen miles south of Assouan.

Mrs. Dunn's appeal from the refusal of the Divisional Court to grant a new trial of the Dunn divorce case has been abandoned.

A meeting of the ratepayers of St. Pancras has passed a resolution in favour of voting £30,000 to the Hampstead Heath Extension Fund.

Ada Hooper, aged 16, was burned to death at Worcester. Her clothes caught fire while she was dressing a younger sister.

In Pekin the heads of decapitated criminals are allowed to remain in the execution ground—which happens to be in a busy street—for months.

Another victim of the foolish practice of attempting to enter a train while in motion has just died at Paisley. His name was Hugh Cunningham.

The Duke of Portland has resigned the command of the Honourable Artillery Company. Major-general Higginson will probably succeed him.

A human ear, neatly sliced off, was found lying a short time ago in the garden of a foreign resident in the Japanese capital. How it got there is a mystery.

An old soldier named John McBean, who had been staying with some friends at Edinburgh, fell down a flight of stairs and so injured his head that he shortly afterwards died.

The Government has ordered that all plainclothes constables and detectives and the extra force of police on guard for the last three years in the Government offices shall be withdrawn.

Damages to the amount of £750 were awarded by a jury at Nottingham against a plumber named Moss, who accidentally shot another man in the course of a scuffle.

Mr. H. H. Gibbs presided at the seventy-fifth anniversary dinner of the London Orphan Asylum, Watford, held at the Hotel Metropole on Monday night. Subscriptions amounting to £2,400 were announced.

The Russian Minister of Marine has authorised the committee of the Patriotic Fleet to take advantage of the prevailing low prices in the ship-building trade and purchase two large ocean-going steamers in the foreign market.

R. Topham, manager of the Rowbottom branch of the Bury Banking Company, was sentenced to five years' penal servitude at the Manchester Assizes this week for embezzling £4,815, which he expended in betting.

An American physician has revived the old Eoscorcean idea. He asserts that conditions may not only be conceived but actualised by which man can enter upon life eternal without passing out of earthly existence.

It is said that Mr. Goschen, reverting to an old precedent, will meet the demand for exemption from the horse tax on the part of medical men and ministers of religion by remitting one half of the tax.

The Osgoodby family of Albany, N.Y., is remarkable for the height of its different members. The father is 6 ft. 6 in. in height, the eldest son 6 ft. 4 in., the next 6 ft. 3 in., the next 6 ft. 2 in., and the youngest child 6 ft. 1 in.

The value of live stock in the United States is \$1,279,560,190, which is more than the combined value of the stock of all other countries. Russia and Great Britain each have \$50,000,000, Germany \$60,000,000, and Austria-Hungary \$55,000,000.

There is a strong effort being made to secure a larger recognition of science in the Woolwich examination of the cadets. Sir J. Lubbock and Sir Lyon Playfair are urging the matter on the attention of Mr. Stanhope.

By direction of the Prince of Wales, Sir Dighton Probyn has written to the Lord Mayor expressing his Royal Highness's satisfaction that a fund has been opened for the relief of the sufferers by the inundations in Prussia, and enclosing a cheque for £100.

The accounts relating to trade and navigation for the United Kingdom for March show that the imports were of the value of £22,500,521, being a decrease of £203,102, while the exports were of the value of £19,047,597, being an increase of £45,224.

Telegrams from Calcutta state that a tornado which occurred at Dacca last week was of small extent but of great force. A large number of houses were destroyed. Forty persons are now reported to have been killed, and from 500 to 600 injured.

Trustworthy reports from the southern provinces of Egypt state that the people are not in any way disturbed by the rumours as to the movements of the dervishes. The crops are better than they have been for the past twenty years, owing to the high Nile of last autumn.

Mr. Maund, proprietor of an inn at Chester, has been acquitted by the Llangollen magistrates upon the charge of having attempted to shoot a river wader named Lewis. The prisoner pleaded that he did not mean to shoot Lewis, but only to frighten him.

On Sunday night David Ballinghall, gamekeeper to Mr. Halford of Dalhousie, was found lying on the ballroom of an unconscious condition. He almost immediately after expired. On his head there were severe wounds, and it is believed that he met with foul play.

Dr. J. Adams, who is the proprietor of a lunatic asylum at Malling, has been fined £40 for cruelty to pigs. When the inspector visited the premises he discovered a pig in a dreadful state of emaciation. Its tail, ears, and back had been bitten by rats, it being too weak to resist them.

A Deputation of representatives of the van, wheelwright, dock and carrying trade of East London, had an interview with Mr. Jackson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury, and stated objections to the proposed wheel tax. Mr. Jackson promised to lay their views before the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

When a Mussulman dies his name disappears with him. The giving of names among these people is peculiar. When the infant is five days old, the father, in the presence of the assembled family, takes the child, and, having whispered the name it is to bear in its ear, pronounces it aloud to those about him.

At the recent entrance and scholarship examination of Gorton College, Cambridge, two scholarships given by the Goldsmiths' Company, each of the value of £50 a year for three years, were awarded to Miss O. M. S. Lewin, private tuition, and Miss E. E. Read, North London Collegiate School, who were bracketed first in the examination.

Mr. John Newton Barber, a veterinary surgeon, of Newmills, hired a cab at the London and North-Western Station at Stockport, and told the cabman to drive to High-lane. The cabman did so, but on arriving at his destination found that his fare was dead. An examination of the body indicates that death was due to poisoning by prussic acid.

A youth named Peole, aged 18 years, has met with a terrible death in the corn mills of Messrs. Connell and Co., Liverpool. He was alone in a room attending to some machinery, and it is conjectured, was putting on a belt when he got caught and carried round the shaft. His dead body was found fearfully mangled, the top of the skull having been carried away, the face reduced to pulp, the right arm torn out at the shoulder, and both legs fractured in several places.

William G. Bartle, of St. Louis, who was formerly in the American pork-packing business, has been letting us into the secrets of the trade. Cholera, he says, is not a disease, but a state of the body. Hogs, too, are cut into hams, notwithstanding that they are affected with cholera. "If," he added, naively, "the meat of cattle suffering from Texas fever was poisonous, half

the people in St. Louis would have been dead long ago."

General Boulanger has been elected for the Department of Nord, receiving 69,500 votes out of a possible 100,000.

The Canadian Government has decided to extend the present contract for carrying the Atlantic mails for one year.

The Empress Victoria, accompanied by her three daughters, Princesses Victoria, Sophie and Margaret, has paid a visit to Posen, in order to visit the scenes of the recent floods.

A verdict of temporary insanity has been returned in the case of the Rev. H. L. W. H. Saunders, curate of St. James's Church, Dudley, who shot himself on Sunday morning.

The Iowa Legislature has enacted a law under which druggists are compelled to label every package of poison they sell, not only with the word "Poison," but with the names of two antidotes.

Her Majesty's ship Wildfire, the oldest steam vessel in the Navy, has been condemned at Sheerness as unfit for service, and has been ordered to be paid out of commission.

A supposed suicide of a greengrocer named Sheppard, living in Warwick-street, Blackfriars-road, took place on Wednesday, his death being attributed to a fatal dose of poison.

The body of a newly-born male child has been found in Cripplegate. The corpse was so decomposed that the doctor could not discover the cause of death.

It is officially announced from Odessa that all foreign Jews, who number about 10,000 families, chiefly of Roumanian and Austrian nationality, will shortly be expelled from that city.

The Barcelona exhibition, though still unfinished, was opened with great ceremony on Sunday. The official inauguration is fixed to take place on the 15th proximo.

Four sailors of H.M.S. Dolphin, whilst working outside the fortification works at Sunkin, were attacked by rebels. The latter were driven off, but one of the sailors was wounded.

The Italian Minister of War has received a despatch from General San Marzano, dated Massowah Monday, announcing the disgrace of Eas Alula and the withdrawal of the Negus and his chiefs to Adowah.

At the Bradford Quarter Sessions this week, Christopher Gatenby, late secretary of the Bradford Technical College, was found guilty of embezzling the moneys of the institution, and was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

A company promoter, Mr. Wentworth Starwood, has been committed for ten days by the Bloomsbury County Court judge for not complying with an order of the court that he should pay a debt of £8 18s. 6d.

The Home Secretary has intimated that the decision to commute to penal servitude for life the sentence of death passed upon David Pilmore for the shooting of a gamekeeper at Badsworth must be regarded as final.

John Allen has been remanded at the Clerkenwell Police Court on the charge of having broken into St. Clement's Church, Barnsbury, and stolen two brass vases and a christening shield from the building.

At Manchester the county stipendiary has sentenced Arthur Howell, workhouse master, to three months' imprisonment for embezzling sums amounting altogether to £50, the moneys of the guardians of the poor of the Barton-upon-Irwell Union.

The Duke of Cambridge was present on Wednesday at a meeting held at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, in aid of the third quinquennial appeal on behalf of the London Hospital. Sir E. Fowler, M.P., and Sir E. H. Currie also took part in the proceedings.

The Church of All Hallows, East-India Dock, was opened on Sunday afternoon, after the Children's Service, by some persons, who wilfully destroyed the Easter decorations, throwing down the vases over the altar and spoiling the super frontal, but leaving the altar cross untouched.

The result of the ballot amongst the Northumberland miners as to the continued payment of the salaries of Messrs. Burt and Fenwick, M.P.'s, from the funds of the Miners' Union, is stated to show a majority of 292 in favour of continuance out of a total vote of 8,390.

At Whitehaven a coachman named Irving has been remanded on a charge of firing a gun into a bedroom at Carleton Hall. Four women were sleeping in the room, but none received injury. The outrage is attributed to jealousy.

Prince George of Wales left Liverpool-street Station on Thursday, and embarked on board the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Shannon for Malta. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Prince Albert Victor, who, after taking leave, returned to London.

Forty-five persons, principally Jews, have been remanded at Manchester, charged with keeping the York Club, Cheetham, as a gaming house. The police entered the premises an hour after midnight on Sunday, and all the persons found there, including seven women, were arrested.

At Tamworth, an elderly man named John Smith has been committed for trial, charged with having set fire to wheat stack, valued at £110, at Clifton Campville, on the 13th ult. Prisoner was very ill, and instead of being taken to the Stafford Gaol he was removed to the workhouse infirmary, where he lies in a serious condition.

Mr. W. J. N. Nutton, the proprietor of the Eagle public-house near the barracks, at Chatham, died from the effects of a blow received accidentally from a private of the Hampshire Regiment. Some soldiers were fighting in the front bar, and Nutton, in attempting to eject them, received a violent blow intended for one of the combatants.

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained at the Mansion House on Monday evening the authorities of the metropolitan Royal hospitals. Among the guests were the Duke of Cambridge, who, in responding for the Army, referred to the comparatively defenceless state of the City of London, and urged the necessity of making more complete military preparations.

A sarcophagus, seven feet long, well-tooled, and containing a skull and other human bones in a good state of preservation, has just been found in the graveyard at Rosedale Abbey, North Yorkshire. The coffin is supposed to have some connection with the priory of Benedictine or Cistercian nuns founded there in 1190 by Robert de Stuteville.

At Hammersmith Police Court, Henry Beauchamp has been committed for trial on the charge of having, in the year 1891, stolen jewellery to the value of £719 10s. from a jeweller carrying on business at Notting Hill. The prisoner has also been committed on the charge of having incited a Post Office overseer to assist him in committing a fraud.

Westphalian coal is to be enabled to compete more successfully with English coal in the market of Hamburg. Responding to an old demand of the Westphalian coal miners, which they have never ceased to urge in the press and in Parliament, the railway administration has just allowed a reduction of fifty pfennigs per ton for the transport of Westphalian coal to Hamburg.

On the arrival of a train from Leytonstone at Stratford at about ten o'clock on Thursday morning, an old gentleman named Lunn, a passenger by the train, was found to be ill, and was at once removed to a waiting-room. A doctor was sent for, but before his arrival Mr. Lunn had expired. The deceased gentleman lived at Forest Drive, Leytonstone, and was on his way to business in the City.

An extraordinary scene was, it is reported, witnessed early on Sunday morning at Wellingborough town. A young woman, a machinist in the town-council, was, in the morning, leaping over the counter, smashing several panes of glass, tearing down the gas chandelier, and ultimately stripping herself of her clothing. The clerks were powerless to check her movements. Doctors and con-

stables were, however, sent for, and the girl was removed to her lodgings.

The second reading of the Coal and Wine Dues Bill will be taken next Tuesday.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will attend the Chester Triennial Musical Festival.

The Victorian aborigines decreased by 347 last year. There are now only 795 in the whole colony.

The Rev. John Short, of Morris City, Ill., has been fined \$3 and costs for baptizing a man against his will.

Baltimore boasts of having a wealthy society young man who can bake bread and cook a delicious meal.

Leprosy is common in Norway, and in the Norwegian colony in Minnesota there is nearly always a case or two.

Francis Murphy, the American teetotal advocate, wants a law passed making it a crime for a man to treat or be treated.

Mr. Mark Wilks Collet and Mr. William Liddell have been elected respectively governor and deputy-governor of the Bank of England.

The Registrar-general's weekly report states that the death-rate in London last week declined to 19.4 per 1,000.

New disturbances, ascribed to Russian agitation, have broken out at Utrichen, in Roumania. Troops have been sent to restore order.

The will of the late Mr. W. Abbott, the well-known stockbroker, has been proved, the value of the personality being declared at £15,388.

Sir Edward Watkin, M.P., on Wednesday opened the new borough library at Hythe, which has been erected by the corporation at a cost of about £5,000.

Miss Florence Nightingale, in regretting her inability to attend the military bazaar at Manchester this week, describes herself as a permanent invalid, and confined almost entirely to her room.

The dinner of the Warehousemen, Clerks, and Drapers' Schools, to be held at the Hotel Metropole, under the presidency of Mr. G. F. Phillips, has been postponed to June 11th.

Princess Christian will again pay Whitechapel a visit on Saturday, April 21st—this time to open the new lecture hall of the Working Men's Institute.

An anti-Chinese crusade—the principal object of which is to prevent the immigration of Chinamen—has now taken definite shape in New South Wales.

The Jews in Russia have received another evidence of the Imperial disfavour. The thousand or so who reside in Odessa will shortly be required to leave.

M. Legrand, who received the Legion of Honour under circumstances which were the cause of the recent prosecution of M. Wilson, is to be deprived of the coveted ribbon.

Having sown his wild oats and reaped most of the disappointments of royalty, King Kalakaua, it is stated, about to become a coffee planter. He will settle on grounds in Honolulu.

The Emperor Frederick has contributed a donation of 50,000 marks towards the relief of the sufferers from the recent inundations in Germany.

An Imperial ukase is published in the *Faculté Russes* increasing the Cossack contingent quartered in the Caucasus by two battalions in time of peace and six battalions in time of war.

The number of paupers in London, exclusive of lunatics in asylums and vagrants, is 109,133, as compared with 90,727 on the same date of last year.

The Orient, with the protected party of single girls sent out by the Church Emigration Society on 2nd March, arrived safely at Adelaide on the 10th inst.

The ocean yacht match for £1,000 between Mr. Ames's Atlantis and Captain Buller's Bride-maid, from Southampton to Madeira, terminated on Wednesday in an easy victory for the last-named.

As a lamp porter named Humphreys was engaged in putting the lamps into a Great Western train at Wrexham, he fell from the roof of a carriage under the wheels and was crushed to death.

A Blackburn woman, named Barrett, had her neck knocked off by a shuttle flying out of the loom on which she was engaged. Fifty pounds has been awarded her as compensation by a local jury.

Among the property left by a wealthy New Yorker recently deceased was an unimproved tract of land bought by his father in 1806 for \$400, and now valued at \$1,500,000. The "unearned increment" is \$1,499,600.

The sentence of three months' imprisonment on Mr. P. O'Brien, M.P., for his Goresbridge speech has been confirmed, but the judge has ordered him to be treated as a first-class misdemeanant.

A youth, aged about 16, named Joseph Baker, entered a barber's shop at Islington on Wednesday for the supposed purpose of having his hair cut. He, however, seized a razor and inflicted such a terrible gash across his throat that he died shortly afterwards.

At the Thames Police Court, George W. Young, a warehouse boy, has been remanded on charges of setting fire to three warehouses. Edwin Crane was remanded at Highgate charged with setting fire to a number of stacks of hay in that neighbourhood on various occasions.

The London Diocesan Conference was opened this week at King's College with an address from the bishop, who said he was opposed to a division of his diocese, but he did not despair of getting further assistance in the work, which required the services of more men than three bishops.

The youngest son of the late Mr. H. Ingram, M.P., the founder of the *Illustrated London News*, has been killed near Berbera, on the east coast of Africa, by an elephant which had been wounded by a shot from the hunting party of which Mr. Ingram was a member.

A new fashion is in vogue in Chicago. Lunches and entertainments are given which are designated according to the colours of the slippers and hose worn by the ladies. A recent "pink luncheon" given by a lady of society was a great success.

Mrs. Cant, an old lady who had attained the advanced age of 100 years and 7 months, has just died at Pottenhall, Bedfordshire. On the occasion of her 100th birthday her neighbours presented her with a purse containing £50. For the past five years she has been blind, but she otherwise enjoyed good health.

In the Queen's Bench Division on Wednesday, Mr. Lascelles and Mrs. Wyatt, known on the stage as Miss Violet Melnotte, to recover £100, alleged to have been invested in a theatrical speculation, in consequence of the defendant's misrepresentations. The jury found a verdict for the defendant.

Mr. Ashton Smith, who was Lord Salisbury's host during his visit to North Wales, announces through the *Herald Cymrag*, the chief vernacular newspaper of Wales, that in celebration of his forthcoming marriage, and as an expression of sympathy with his tenants during the agricultural depression, he will remit a half year's rent on his large estates. The sum remitted is £15,000.

At the Leeds Sessions on Wednesday three collier lads were tried for obstructing the railway line connected with the Waterloo Main Colliery at Ousdunthorpe, whereby the lives of 700 colliers had been endangered. The defendants, who had done the mischief for the sake of being allowed a holiday, were sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment.

At Stonehaven Police Court on Wednesday, a farmer, named George Summer, of Leddoak, near Stonehaven, was convicted in the penalty of £40 17s. for concealing the existence of contagious pleuro-pneumonia on his farm, sending diseased cows on the railway to Aberdeen, Perth, and

Glasgow, and causing their exposure for sale to the two former places.

Several transports have left Italy for Massowah, to bring a portion of the troops home.

A recent order circulated in Brooklyn prohibits more than five policemen in uniform riding on a street car at one time.

Mr. Goschen has received a deputation from the Chamber of Shipping and the Associated Chambers of Commerce, who laid before him various matters affecting the shipping interest of the country.

Mr. Joseph Smith, a schoolmaster, of Gateshead, 23 years of age, who was seriously injured in a football match at Hexham-on-Tyne on the 7th inst., has died from injuries to the spine.

Sir Donald Currie, who has recently paid a visit to South Africa, delivered an address at the meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute this week, and gave a highly favourable account of the mineral resources and trade of the Cape.

During the month of March 11,139 tons of fish (3,439 tons having been forwarded by water carriage) were sent to Billingsgate Market. Of this quantity only 6 tons 7 cwt. were seized and condemned as unfit for food, or one-sixteenth per cent.

A meeting was held at Winchester this week of those interested in the fruit growing industries of South and West Hampshire, when it was decided to form an association of growers to consider what steps should be adopted to obtain a better price for their produce.

Archdeacon Gray, an American cleric, who has been a resident of China for nearly half a century, says:—There is no law to restrict parents in the exercise of authority over their children. They can sell them, and the children of Chinese parents are in some instances put to death.

James Brown, a private of the 7th Dragoon Guards, has been remanded at the Thames Police Court, charged with having attempted to murder a woman named Eliza Jane Lowe, by cutting her throat. It was stated that the prosecutrix left the hospital some days ago, and that she could not be found.

Rapid progress is being made in organising the Irish Exhibition, which will be opened on June 4th at Olympia, Kensington. The area occupied will be twelve acres. An Irish industrial village will be erected in the grounds, and the ruins of Blinnis, an ancient Irish round tower will add to the attractions.

Workmen, in remodelling an old stone dwelling at Pinner, Ohio, discovered the bones of four children, evidently from 9 to 13 years of age at the time of death. It is a murder mystery. Tradition has told of children, who were heirs to a considerable fortune, disappearing from that house many years ago.

Ernest Von Wechmar, of Berlin, claims to have invented a flying machine that will make it perfectly possible for humanity to compete with the birds. The apparatus is very ugly, the wings being about thirty feet by two, and the body supported by air cushions as well as by the wings themselves.

A series of historic chairs are about to be offered for auction among the effects of the late George Godwin. The most important is that in which Shakspere is said to have written many of his plays, but considerable interest also attaches to the chairs formerly belonging to Gay, Theodore Hook, Bulwer Lytton, Thackeray, and Dr. Watts.

A mystery is being investigated at Arkansas. On the body of a former inmate of the penitentiary were examined, thirty-four gashes were discovered on the back, in any one of which a man's two fingers could be placed. That the man was murdered seems undeniable, but the authorities refuse to say whom he was murdered by or for what cause.

Captain Auguste Collingridge appeared at the Marylebone Police Court, to answer a summons charging him with having published defamatory libels concerning Mrs. Jane Matilda Flintoff, the wife of an engineer. The alleged libels were contained in anonymous postcards and in a letter, and the case was adjourned for the evidence of experts regarding the handwriting.

G. W. Young, aged 14, has been remanded at the Thames Police Court on the charge of having set fire to a warehouse at Orchard Wharf, Poplar, in November, 1887; to a second warehouse, 13th March, 1888; and to a third warehouse, 24th March, 1888. He had confessed to his crimes. Damage had been done to the extent of above £2,000.

At the Thames Police Court, Frederick William Richter was charged, on four summonses, with having sold beer, wine, spirits, and tobacco without a license. The defence was that the premises in which the alleged offences were committed were a club, and that the persons to whom the liquor and tobacco were supplied were members. The defendant was fined 40s. in each case and costs.

A boy named Dorell has been remanded at Lawford's Gate on a charge of shooting at St. Steadman, his stepfather, and Robert Knight, a third boy, with intent to murder them. Mr. Steadman had some words with the lad's mother, and Mr. Knight endeavoured to make peace between the parties. The lad, who was in the room, produced a revolver, and discharged it three or four times, wounding both men.

At a meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture this week the proposed Local Government Bill was discussed at considerable length, and after many points in it had been objected to, a resolution approving generally of the bill was unanimously adopted. The Budget proposals were also approved of, and, after expressing disapproval of the proposed repeal of the brokers' licenses the meeting terminated.

Sydney is rebelling against an attempt to introduce the tenement system of living. "Fanny," exclaimed one of its prominent politicians, "an Australian working man tramping up four or five flights of stairs on his way to bed! Fancy the atmosphere of such a menagerie, the smells of fifty dinners, some hundreds of dirty pairs of boots, of soiled clothes, of gutter-gambling children! Fanny! But Londoners endure it."

An inquest has been held at Manchester touching the death of Mr. Howard James Fletcher, who received fatal injuries in a football match at Whalley Range on the 7th inst. Evidence was given that the deceased, while charging, came into collision with another player with his head with such violence as to dislocate his neck. The game was played with fairness and in a friendly spirit. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

During the performance at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, a few evenings ago, a shrill cry from behind the scenes, followed by a heavy fall, caused intense excitement among the audience. The actors hurriedly left the stage, and a pause of painful alarm ensued, in which several ladies fainted. It appears that a visitor, named Wilson, was watching the scene shifting operations from the flies, when he lost his balance and fell to the ground, a distance of sixty feet. No hopes were entertained of his recovery.

Albert Pickering and George Benham have been remanded at the Lambeth Police Court, charged with having incited a boy named Tizard to steal money from Messrs. Moser and Co., of the Borough High-street, by whom he was employed as cashier. The allegation is that the prisoners, having ascertained that Tizard had been guilty of speculation, extorted hush money from him to the amount of about £100. This money was stolen by Tizard from Messrs. Moser and Co., and it is alleged that the prisoners were aware of the fact.

Cross-summonses for alleged assault, taken out respectively by Mr. Sydney Alport, acting-manager of the Vauderlei Theatre, and Mr. Isaiah Phillips, of Spitalfields, came before the magistrate at Bow-street on Tuesday. The cases arose out of proceedings in the Vauderlei Theatre on Easter Monday night, when Mr. Phillips, it was alleged, took a seat that had been booked, and declined to take a vacant seat. Mr. Vaughan thought the justice of the case would be met by ordering each party to pay the costs of the summonses.

SWIFT'S SPECIFIC.

TRADE MARK.

THE CHIEF OF BLOOD PURIFIERS.

It is Nature's own remedy, containing

NO MERCURY, POTASH, ARSENIC,

nor any other mineral poison, being

ENTIRELY VEGETABLE,

and prepared exclusively from roots and herbs indigenous to the forests of Georgia, U.S.A.

SWIFT'S SPECIFIC.

SSS

has stood the test for over fifty years, and still holds the first rank as

THE GREATEST OF REMEDIES

for every form of disease that originates in the blood.

First employed in, and found to be specific for, one of the most fearful maladies with which the human race is afflicted; a malady that originates from a

CONTAGIOUS BLOOD POISON,

which infects the entire system and renders life not only a burden but a curse.

SWIFT'S SPECIFIC.

SSS

was afterwards found to have a much wider range of applicability; indeed, to be the remedy, "par excellence," for all diseases arising from

MISCELLANEOUS—(CONTINUED)



SARSAPARILLA. **HOLBORN, LONDON**
(Late 121, Fleet-street)



FROM THE PROPRIETOR OF
BEECHAM'S PILLS,
 ST. HELEN'S, LANCASHIRE,

TO THE READERS OF THIS PAPER

DO YOU DOUBT

BEECHAM'S PILLS HAVE THE LARGEST SALE OF ANY PATENT MEDICINE IN THE WORLD?

If so, read the remarks gathered from letters just received from some of the most prominent members of the Drug Trade. I have so far refrained from publishing testimonials from private individuals (although I am greatly indebted to thousands who have thanked me for the benefits derived from my Pills), as I have found unprincipled persons offering to testify anything if paid for so doing, but the following will convince the most sceptical that my Advertisement is not exaggerated:

From Buxton.
 "My experience amply confirms your printed statement to the effect that your Pills have the largest sale of any Patent Medicine extant."

From Beverley.
 "Your Pills certainly take the lead amongst Patents, as their sale is double that of any other."

From Burton-on-Trent.
 "I am selling more Beecham's Pills than any other Patent Medicine. This I lay to their actual worth."

From Belfast.
 "Your Pills are beating all others totally now."

From Bolton.
 "I find your Pills sell better than any other Patent Medicine."

From Birkenhead.
 "I sell more of your Pills than any other Patent Medicine."

From Cullen.
 "During the last 12 months the sale of your Pills has increased very considerably, in fact, they are the most popular family Pill of any patent preparative we sell."

From Canterbury.
 "Your Pills command premier sale over all other Pills in this neighbourhood."

From Dovercourt.
 "Your Pills are having the largest sale here of any Patent Medicine I have sold during the past 30 years."

From Dawlish.
 "We sell more of your Pills than all others put together."

From Dundee.
 "I sell twenty boxes of your Pills for one of any other maker."

From Epping.
 "No other Pills have a tithe part of the sale with us that yours have."

From Elland.
 "I sell more of your Pills than any other kind, and hear them well spoken of."

From Great Horton.
 "I sell more of 'Beecham's Pills' than all other patents put together."

From Grangemouth.
 "Your Pills have a larger sale than any other Patent."

From Gravesend.
 "The sale of your Pills I find far exceeds any other patent."

From Hesse, Hull.
 "I sell more Beecham's Pills than I have ever sold of any other medicine in my experience, and have heard more of their good effects also. There is an increasing demand."

From Haddington.
 "The sale of your Pills far surpasses that of all others."

From Ilkestone.
 "Your Pills have a very good sale in this town, they have taken the lead of all others."

From Kidderminster.
 "I sell a good quantity of your Pills, in fact, more than any other kind of Patent Medicine."

From London (Walham Green).
 "We have a very large sale of your Pills, and may say the largest of any patent pills."

From Millwall, E.
 "Your Pills have the greatest sale of anything I keep in stock."

From Holloway-road, N.
 "We are selling more of your Pills than any other kind."

From Islington, N.
 "I have a large sale for your Pills, in fact, I find them very well spoken of in this neighbourhood."

From Liverpool.
 "We sell more of Beecham's Pills than ever. We have scores of regular customers for them which proves, if proof is required, that the Pills are what the Proprietor claims them to be."

From Leicester.
 "I sell more of your Pills than any other advertised."

From Nottingham.
 "Have a very large sale for your Pills, I might say as much as all other patents put together."

From Oldham.
 "We do a considerable trade in your Pills, in fact, they are the best selling Pills that we keep."

From Plumstead, Kent.
 "The sale of Beecham's Patent Pills largely increased during the past twelve months. They are much praised for their efficacy."

From Rhymney.
 "I find the sale of your Pills larger than that of any other patent medicine."

From Selby.
 "I find 'Beecham's Pills' the most saleable patent medicine of the present day."

From Saffron Walden.
 "I sell a large quantity of your Pills, they have outstripped others."

From Selkirk.
 "Of all patent medicines I find Beecham's Pills the most saleable."

From St. Just.
 "My sale of your Pills is very good, sell more of them than any other patent, three to one."

From Stanmore.
 "I sell more of your Pills than of any other patent."

From Scarborough.
 "We sell more of your Pills than any other."

From York.
 "I sell five times as many of your Pills than I do of any other patent medicine."

From Royston, Herts.
 "Your Pills sell better than any other proprietary medicine I have sold for upwards of 40 years."

From Rutherglen.
 "Beecham's Pills are the most popular Pills in this district, we sell large numbers of them."

From Ulverston.
 "Your Pills have a wonderful sale with me, never seem to flag in the least as do other patents their sale keeps steady, and they are well spoken of."

From West Auckland.
 "We are selling very few Pills but yours."

From Wellingborough.
 "I sell more of your Pills than any patent medicine."

THESE LETTERS, WITH HUNDREDS MORE BEARING SIMILAR PROOF THAT

BEECHAM'S PILLS

STAND WITHOUT A RIVAL, ARE IN MY POSSESSION, THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES BEING WITHHELD WITH THE OBJECT OF NOT RENDERING THE WRITERS UNPOPULAR AMONG LESS SUCCESSFUL MEDICINE PROPRIETORS.

THOMAS BEECHAM.